



Indian elephant. (Kim Bartlett)

Can “National Heritage” status save elephants in ever more crowded, faster moving India?

DELHI, GUWAHATI—

The largest of land animals, but neither faster than a poacher’s speeding bullet nor more powerful than a locomotive, elephants are now officially protected with tigers as “National Heritage Animals of India,” declared Indian environment and animal welfare minister Jairam Ramesh on October 21, 2010. Unclear is whether National Heritage status will help elephants any more than it has helped tigers, who since gaining their National Heritage designation in 1973 have been poached and illegally poisoned for preying upon livestock to the verge of extinction across most of India.

National Herit-age status helped to secure land and funding for tiger conservation, and for about 30 years the tiger population was believed to be recovering, but more recent findings have shown a steep decline that (continued on page 14)

European Commission to seek suspension of cloning animals for food (page 10)



Rescued puppy mill Chihuahuas. (North Shore Animal League America)

Missouri voters approve anti-puppy mill initiative

ST. LOUIS—Missouri voters on November 2, 2010 approved Proposition B, to increase regulation of dog breeders, by a margin of more than 60,000 votes.

Won by a coalition called Missourians for the Protection of Dogs, Proposition B was backed by the Humane Society of the U.S., the Humane Society of Missouri, the Best Friends Animal Society, and the American SPCA. It requires dog breeders who keep 10 or more breeding dogs to provide dogs with larger cages that allow them freedom of movement, with access to opportunities for outdoor exercise; prohibits keeping dogs on wire floors and in stacked cages; and mandates that every dog in a breeding kennel of 50 or more dogs must receive an annual veterinary examination. Ill or injured animals must receive prompt treatment. Breeders will not be allowed to keep more than 50 breeding dogs.

Early on election eve HSUS president Wayne Pacelle admitted in his blog to concern when Proposition B was overwhelm-

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ANIMAL PEOPLE

News For People Who Care About Animals

October 2010
Volume 19, #8

Chinese government announces a crackdown on zoo animal abuses

BEIJING—Moving to bring zoos into compliance with regulations included in a draft Chinese national anti-cruelty law, the Ministry of Housing & Urban/Rural Development on October 27, 2010 “suggested” in an official web posting that zoos should adequately feed and house animals, should stop selling wild animal products and serving wild animal parts in restaurants, and should stop staging circus-like trained animal acts.

The ministry “said inspections would be carried out to see if zoos were complying,” reported Agence France-Press. “The ministry pointed out that some zoos had been turned into for-profit organisations, leading to poor management and to some animals dying in abnormal conditions or maiming people. The

suggestions laid out include providing necessary health care and banning animal performances to ‘prevent animals from being alarmed or provoked,’” Agence France-Press continued.

Added Associated Press, “The Ministry of Housing & Urban/Rural Development said zoos could be shut down or receive a citation if they disobey the guidelines during the three-month inspection period that began on October 15. But the ministry did not say whether the requirements would eventually be made permanent, as would be accomplished by passage of the draft anti-cruelty law.

Wildlife Conservation Society researcher Sun Quanhui, working in Hunchun, told Associated Press that the suggestions from the housing ministry were “very welcome news,” but are only a step toward legislation.

“We feel that these new guidelines are good because they could improve the welfare of animals in zoos and help standardize conduct at zoos,” said Sun. “We hope that in the future we will have an actual animal welfare law that helps guarantee the basic needs of animals in zoos and elsewhere.”

Headquartered in New York City, the Wildlife Conservation Society operates the Bronx Zoo, Central Park Zoo, Prospect Park Zoo, and New York Aquarium. The society became involved in China through visits by WCS field biologist George Schaller in 1973, 1988, and 1996.

In recent years the Wildlife Conservation Society has helped to develop the Chang Tang Nature Reserve, a site three times the size of the largest U.S. wildlife refuge, and a “Peace Park” that spans the transborder regions of China, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Tajikistan—but WCS has had only a low-profile, behind-the-scenes role in Chinese zoo issues.

(continued on page 8)



Leghorn rooster & hens at Pasado’s Safe Haven sanctuary. (Kim Bartlett)

Controlled atmosphere poultry stunning moves ahead

FREDERICKSBURG, Pennsylvania—Controlled atmosphere stunning on October 22, 2010 moved an influential step closer to U.S. industry acceptance when *New York Times* business writer William Neuman broke as an exclusive the decisions of the premium niche poultry producers Bell & Evans and Mary’s Chickens to introduce controlled atmosphere systems in mid-2011.

Bell & Evans, Mary’s Chickens, and MBA Poultry of Nebraska, which has used controlled atmosphere stunning since 2005, have among them about half of 1% of U.S. poultry industry market share. Bell & Evans kills about 840,000 birds per week, Neuman said, while Mary’s Chickens kills about 200,000. Their combined annual slaughter volume is about equal to the weekly volume for Tyson Foods.

But Bell & Evans, of Pennsylvania, is prominent within the poultry industry as a major supplier to Whole Foods Markets, and as one of the oldest companies in U.S. agribusiness, begun circa 1895. Mary’s Chickens, of California, founded in 1954, has been operated for three generations by

Don Pitman and descendants. MBA Poultry, marketing “Smart Chickens” since 1998, is known for technological innovation.

All three companies advertise that they meet a variety of humane and organic certification standards, and feed their chickens a strictly vegetarian diet.

Announced People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals spokesperson Robbyn Brooks, “Following talks with PETA, Bell & Evans has pledged to implement within one year’s time the most advanced slaughter technology for better animal welfare, a system called ‘slow induction anesthesia.’”

Explained Brooks, “Slow induction anesthesia, also referred to as controlled-atmosphere killing, is used to ensure that birds experience little discomfort while they are put to sleep; birds are not removed from the transportation drawers until after unconsciousness has been induced. Also appealing to the company is the fact that the system is simple and easy to use, operate, and clean. The birds do not suffer broken wings and legs while being shackled upside down and are

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Editorial feature

Charitable standards & the discerning donor

ANIMAL PEOPLE has over the years often criticized the charity evaluation methods of both the Wise Giving Alliance, a project of the Council of Better Business Bureaus, and Charity Navigator, whose easily accessed online star ratings of charities are now by far the charity evaluation method most used by donors.

The Wise Giving Alliance evaluations, as **ANIMAL PEOPLE** has in the past explained in detail, require charities to meet a set of standards for governance which for animal charities and most small charities actually work at cross-purposes to the goal of maintaining a strong focus on the charitable mission.

In particular, the Wise Giving Alliance standards practically exclude founders from governance of a charity if they have built the charity successfully enough to begin drawing a salary at some point. Founders sometimes use their own money to start charities, but even a sizeable fortune will run out eventually. More often, founders begin subsidizing their charitable work with money they earn from other jobs, which are ultimately given up in favor of working full-time for the charities.

Charity Navigator assigns stars, like a restaurant or hotel reviewer, based on computerized number-crunching using data supplied on IRS Form 990 filings. Because Charity Navigator does not do program verification, it tends to reward the organizations that have learned to game the system through stratagems such as claiming fundraising mailings are "program service" under the heading of "public education." Sometimes Charity Navigator awards stars to charities whose filings appear to be designed to mislead, while penalizing charities whose filings include basic errors or accurately reflect temporary imbalances of program, fundraising, and administrative expense resulting from embarking on a major donor acquisition or capital campaign late in a fiscal year.

ANIMAL PEOPLE has since 1999 published our annual *Watchdog Report on Animal Charities* to help animal charity donors make better informed judgments in response to the unending deluge of appeals which every year peaks between Thanksgiving and Christmas. The **ANIMAL PEOPLE** standards for governance and accountability are based on the realities of funding and directing animal charities as we have observed, reported about, and experienced them for more than 20 years.

The 2010 edition of the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** *Watchdog Report on Animal Charities* reviews 155 charities in all, looking at policies, programs, and administrative issues, as well as at the bare numbers. At \$25 per copy, each review costs the user just 16¢—barely a third of the cost of postage to mail a donation first class.

The typical animal charity donor contributes more than \$2,000 a year to favored animal charities, but based on having reviewed hundreds of donors' lists of charities supported, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** estimates that as much as a third of the money goes to organizations whose policies and practices are just plain not what the donors believe, and often are misled into believing by misleading appeals. By helping donors to avoid such mistakes, the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** *Watchdog Report on Animal Charities* may help the typical animal charity donor to increase the effect of his or her contributions by a third or more.

Like the Wise Giving Alliance and Charity Navigator evaluations, the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** *Watchdog Report on Animal Charities* will also help donors to avoid supporting charities that spend excessive amounts on fundraising and administration. Exposing excessive spending on fundraising and administration was the focus of the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** project that evolved into the *Watchdog Report*, called "Who Gets The Money," begun in 1991.

The animal charity field is still plagued, like other branches of charity, with direct mail mills which annually spend well over two thirds of the funds they raise on sending out further fundraising appeals. There are also still instances of animal charity chief executives collecting compensation well in excess of what they could be expected to earn in the private sector. But these bad examples are far fewer now, proportionate to the whole of the animal charity sector, than 10 and 20 years ago. As critical as we are of Charity Navigator, one job it does well is crunching huge amounts of data to produce meaningful norms for the nonprofit field. A few weeks ago Charity Navigator released its *2010 CEO Compensation Study*, based on IRS Form 990 filings for fiscal 2008 from 3,005 of the most prominent U.S. charities in all fields. Among them were 210 animal charities.

Charity Navigator compared chief executive salaries within nine different mission categories. The overall median chief executive salary was \$147,273, about 3.25 times more than the median U.S. annual wage for all occupations of \$45,113, but 14% less than the \$167,280 median salary for business chief executives. The median chief executive salary for animal charities was \$106,030, only 2.35 times the median U.S. annual wage for all occupations, and just 63% of the median salary for business chief executives.

Only the religious sector pays chief executives less than the animal sector—largely because many chief executives of religious organizations are nuns, monks, or others who have taken vows of poverty, whose low incomes offset the excesses of popular televangelists. The environmental sector pays chief executives about 12% more than the animal charity sector. The educational sector pays chief executives 2.6 times more.

Animal charity donors should continue to be vigilant about giving to direct mail mills and charities that appear to operate chiefly for the benefit of the top management. Yet donors also need to recognize that animal charities need to pay their best people wages sufficient to keep them on the job. Few skilled people are able to donate much of their time for very long. Much is made of the U.S. having an "all volunteer" army, for example, but U.S. soldiers are volunteers only in that they voluntarily enlist for military service. They are compensated at competitive rates, counting fringe benefits, combat pay, and re-enlistment bonuses.

In addition, animal charities need to invest in fundraising and donor acquisition to ensure that they will have enough income in the future to continue helping animals.

Animal charities over the past 20 years have spent an average of 28% of their annual budgets on fundraising and administration, about 25% less than the norm for all charities.

Fundraising and administration are nonprofit functions comparable to the sales and management aspects of running a for-profit business.

For-profit retail businesses often spend 50% or more of their operating budget on sales promotion and management.

Overlooking the need of a charity to raise funds and ensure that the money is effectively spent, donors often specify that their contributions are to be used only for program service. This practice tends to erode effective program service—or accountability—because if donor intent is honored, little or nothing is left for overhead.

U.S. animal charities whose programs include funding humane work overseas, including **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, are often asked to relay large sums to the foreign projects, with scant attention paid by the donors—or none—to the costs incurred by the U.S. charities transferring the money abroad. These costs include the considerable staff time needed to maintain the much reinforced accountability standards that the Internal Revenue Service now requires. Properly keeping oversight of funds forwarded to foreign charities now requires documented regular communication, access to audited financial statements, and site visits at least every few years by a staff representative or reliable third party. Realistically, it is difficult to facilitate making an overseas grant or donation for less than about 25% of the total amount provided.

It is reasonable for animal charity donors to expect that more than 70% of each dollar they contribute goes "to the animals," as many phrase it. Expecting greater "efficiency" than that is unrealistic, and is an invitation to be misled by fundraisers who have no scruples about promising what they cannot deliver.

This is not an argument that animal charities should spend anywhere near as much on fundraising and administration as the 50%, approximately, that retail businesses spend on advertising, public relations, and management.

Neither is this an argument that animal charity personnel should be paid more, or even as much, as counterparts in the private sector. Choosing to work in the nonprofit sector, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** believes, should entail a conscious choice to sacrifice wealth for the opportunity to do good deeds supported by the generosity of others.

ANIMAL PEOPLE is advocating only that donors should take a realistic view of what is necessary to sustain animal charities, rather than holding expectations that reward those who either mislead donors or, instead of investing in actual charitable work, keep enough money in the bank and stock market to operate largely on interest and dividends.

SEARCHABLE ARCHIVES: www.animalpeoplenews.org

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ANIMAL PEOPLE never sells names and addresses of subscribers and donors to other charities or to businesses. Very infrequently we do give other animal welfare organizations permission to use our mailing list on a one-time basis to send information about their programs. If you are an **ANIMAL PEOPLE** subscriber or donor and do not wish to receive material from other animal charities, you may so indicate by writing to us at the postal address or emailing <anpeople@whidbey.com>.

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ANIMAL PEOPLE

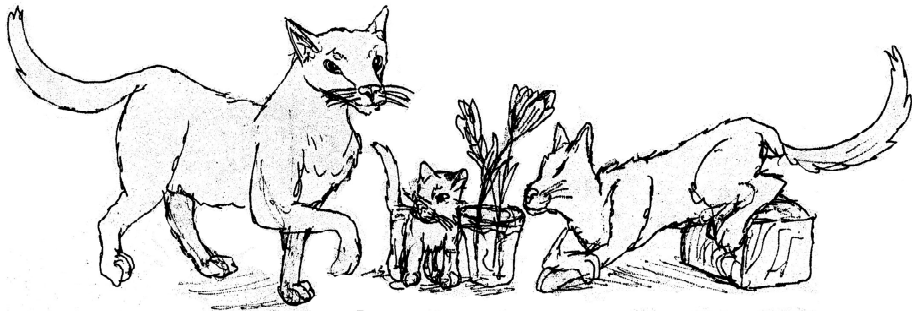
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Pet-Abuse-com founder pleads for registry data standards

Recently, legislation has been proposed by state and local governments to initiate individual animal abuse registries.

Similar to Megan's Law for sex offenders, this legislation would require individuals convicted of animal abuse crimes to register with the public database or potentially face fines and/or jail time.

We at Pet-Abuse.Com wholeheartedly support these efforts, and applaud the legislators, advocacy groups, and individuals who have worked so hard to get them this far. We were founded on the belief that such registries are vital to the safety and welfare of animals and humans alike, and it has been exciting to see such progressive movement in this direction over the past year.

However, as we watch the momentum behind legislation for registries continue to build, we become increasingly concerned that what seems like a step forward might actually be a step backwards if the planning and technical execution of these registries are insufficiently considered.

Pet-Abuse.Com was founded in 2001, and was the first searchable database of criminal animal cruelty available on the internet. We made the conscious decision not to call ourselves a registry because the term registry implies that law enforcement agencies are required to report, and we felt that was misleading to the public. There is still no true animal abuse registry online as of October 2010.

Websites that listed cruelty cases before we went online consisted of passionate-but-informal collections of stories presented in a flat HTML format that was neither searchable nor standardized. Hundreds of cases were painstakingly catalogued by concerned members of the public, but were ultimately meaningless to someone looking for very specific information, or attempting to derive meaningful patterns and statistics from the incidents.

For many years Pet-Abuse.Com website users have been able to search our archives by name, state, county, zip

code, and by standardized characteristics of cases, such as those that occurred within the context of a domestic dispute or argument, whether the abuser claimed to be punishing the animal for bad behavior, or cases where drugs or alcohol were involved.

Each case is broken down by an extensive set of data points that have evolved over time through constant discussion and revision with law enforcement, prosecutors, animal advocacy organizations and researchers. Our goal is to standardize the data we collect, so that these common data points can be help to gather longterm statistics and recognize patterns in cruelty to animals.

As new legislation evolves to create individual registries for animal cruelty crimes, the need for standardization becomes glaringly apparent. Without standardization, each new registry will function as an autonomous entity, with no possibility of data being cross-referenced or collated.

Data from one regional database might never be compared to data from another region, or be added to an overall database. In the long run, this not only means a loss of meaningful statistics, but also splinters the information into dozens and eventually hundreds of individual databases, making it nearly impossible for agencies to determine whether a suspect has a previous animal cruelty conviction. It is challenging enough to convince people to use one database, let alone dozens.

Imagine there are 300 people in a room, each with a piece of a puzzle which, if completed, could lead to a significant, quantifiable reduction in domestic abuse, gang activity, and cruelty to animals. But each of those 300 people speaks a different language, and none can communicate with each other. Now imagine that there was a way to provide a translator, a Rosetta Stone, that would allow everyone in that room to share puzzle pieces without having to learn each others' languages. That's what standardizing this data would accomplish.

Individuals convicted of animal cruelty often change locations, move to different counties and states, and even move out of the country. Habitual offenders, the individuals that animal cruelty case registries are most needed to track, move the most frequently.

We understand that it is not the responsibility of a state or county to maintain a national database. However, agencies moving forward without a strong technical plan will in effect be stepping backward in time nearly a decade.

We implore the lawmakers and agencies responsible for proposing and creating these new registries to form a committee that sets a minimum standard for data collection and ensures that this public data is usable in a format that will benefit everyone.

The Pet-Abuse.com system was specifically designed for this regional model from the beginning. Our intention was not to be the curators of data, but merely to facilitate data collection and distribution, allowing representatives from authorized agencies to input and manage their own cases.

The county legislature in Suffolk County, New York on October 14, 2010 voted to become the first region in the United States to implement a government operated public animal abuse registry. Please contact your legislators to encourage them to follow Suffolk County's example, and impress upon them the importance of establishing a national standard so that each registry becomes part of a greater solution.

Pet-Abuse.Com would welcome the opportunity to share our extensive knowledge, technology and resources in this area, and help to develop the technical specifications through which a more humane nation can be formed.

—Alison L. Gianotto
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LETTERS

Zero grazing

Thank you so much for **ANIMAL PEOPLE**'s September 2010 editorial feature "Zero Grazing vs. the Five Freedoms." It covers a subject that has been of great concern to me since I worked on Compassion In World Farming's Livestock Revolution project over a decade ago.

I first saw zero grazing in Kenya when the International Livestock Research Institute took me to see what they called good practice in smallholder livestock systems in the countryside outside Nairobi. I was shocked to see dairy cows barricaded into small wooden stalls on mud flooring, eating piles of grass that had been cut and carried from nearby lush grasslands. As you rightly point out, this barren environment was clearly against the Five Freedoms, and caused me to wonder how such a cruel and inequitable system could have become so entrenched as to be considered "good practice."

The International Fund for Agricultural Development has also been involved in funding a Smallholder Dairy Commercialization Programme which involves persuading farmers, apparently with some resistance, to abandon grazing and the keeping of large numbers of cattle of local breeds—which generate great respect in Africa, as well as providing insurance and dowries—in favor of devoting part or all of their small land parcels to growing and storing forage, and investing in the construction of zero grazing sheds for a smaller number of "improved" breed cattle. "Improved" to IFAD means bred for produc-

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tivity, as opposed to disease resistance, adaptation to local environments, etc.

For the past four years I have been doing development work as well as animal welfare work, mostly in Africa. I consistently see zero grazing used and promoted in livestock projects. Your editorial discussed Heifer International. Another of the many charities now promoting zero grazing is Africa 2000 Network-Uganda. This is an independent Ugandan organization that started as a United Nations Development Program project which covered 13 African countries.

Africa 2000 Network-Uganda pushes zero grazing even though an in-depth study done from 2001 to 2005, funded by the Danish International Development Agency, concluded that in Uganda high-input/highly intensified production systems were not necessarily more profitable—and that dairy farmers who have adopted zero grazing may want to revisit their choice of production systems to sustain their crop as well as dairy production over the long term.

I would like to see the animal protection movement engage in systematic advocacy to development organizations to ensure that promoting inequitable systems such as zero grazing become unacceptable.



—Janice Cox
Management Consultant:
Animal Welfare & Development
<jancox@onetel.com>

Recreating the misdeeds of the west

The September 2010 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** editorial feature "Zero Grazing vs. the Five Freedoms" is really brilliant. It explains the whole issue clearly and comprehensively—and, I think, uncovers the pretenses lurking behind the concept of promoting animal agriculture while implying that it in some way is really helpful to animals.

Especially it explains that zero grazing is just a precursor to getting people used to the idea that farm animals can be confined. Of course once they are confined, that is the beginning of industrial farming, and all kinds of other abuses follow, which are always promoted as "more humane for the animals."

It is absolutely true that the worst, or by far the most numerous, abuses on the planet relate to farm animals. And this is very much the core of the whole animal welfare issue, because the same people who love their dog and their cat may have great resistance to learning about brutality to chickens, who end up on their plate.

It was so odd recently, when there were egg recalls, to see TV anchors and U.S. Senators who seemed genuinely shocked to see that chickens were kept in inhumane conditions. They had never even thought about it.

All of the misdeeds of the West seem to be being re-created in developing countries—who have had a history of, if not kindness, then at least a tradition of natural farming methods. And there are so many huge forces aiming to replace these traditions with factory farming and other abuses. In India there are traditions of kindness and reverence for animals, but everywhere, in all countries, animals were in the past at least allowed to graze and live naturally.

It is really essential, I think, for animal people, especially in Asia and Africa, to see really clearly the dangers of promoting factory farming under the guise of "helping animals and people with more development." Such rhetoric is just a way of re-creating all the abuses toward animals found in the western world.



—Sharon St. Joan
Kanab, Utah

WSPA & Heifer

I thought that your analysis of the relationship between the World Society for the Protection of Animals and Heifer International in the September 2010 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** was great. I really think it's important that animal advocates not fall into the trap of supporting further agricultural use of farmed animals, a sad but increasing trend. Keep up the great work!



—Marti Kheel
Author, *Nature Ethics:
An Ecofeminist Perspective*
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<www.Martikheel.com>

Three cheers!

Merritt Clifton, three cheers for receiving the International Society for Infectious Diseases' ProMED-mail Award for Excellence in Outbreak Reporting on the Internet!

As a nurse epidemiologist and animal person, I've always been so pleased to read your contributions to ProMED. And now your excellent work is justly recognized!

Hooray!



—Betsy Todd
Hastings-on-Hudson, New York
<betsytoddm@gmail.com>



Please Help Me Heal My name is Marshmallow.

My name is Marshmallow and a short while ago I was out in the world on my own. I was having health problems and could have died. I couldn't see; my eyes were filled with debris and they burned with terrible irritation.

Life is very different now. I live at North Shore Animal League America, and am finally safe. I am in the Help Me Heal Program because I need a lot of medical care. Both of my eyes have severe conjunctivitis, which is an infection of the tissue that lines the eyelids.

My right eye is so infected – that I don't have any vision out of it and it's going to need to be surgically removed. This operation will take weeks to heal and will require constant care. Though my left eye is also infected, Animal League veterinarians think I may have some vision out of it, so they are holding off on operating for now. Instead, they are medicating it and keeping it very clean.

The Animal League is very experienced with this type of operation – even on tiny kittens, which makes it more delicate. Only a short while ago, they had a kitten named Pounce, and he had the same surgery, which was a great success. He went on to be a healthy and happy kitten and even got adopted! I know I will too.

Help Me Heal is a vital and life-saving program. Your support improves and saves countless animals' lives. Your generosity will help me get the operation I need to be healthy.

To help continue the care for Marshmallow and help other animals in our Help Me Heal Program, visit www.AnimalLeague.org/help-me-heal

"North Shore Animal League
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AnimalLeague.org

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MORE LETTERS***Commonwealth Games street dogs***

Concerning "Street dogs, trains, & Indian elephants" in the September 2010 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, only one national committee complained about the dogs—from Scotland, a nation of dog-lovers.

Every picture of a stray dog that has appeared so far in any newspaper or magazine has shown healthy, friendly dogs. No picture has ever shown more than two dogs, so forget about packs of strays.

I am not condoning dogs entering the apartment blocks and paw-prints on one bed, with which irresponsible journalists went to town, but many journalists have never let facts get in the way of a good story.

All in India owe a deep debt of gratitude to the relentless efforts of General Rammehar Kharb, chair of the Animal Welfare Board of India. Kharb stressed to the Delhi administration that due to the vacuum created by removing the few dogs from the Commonwealth Games site who were there earlier, new dogs have migrated in, since food is available there.

The Indian Railways killing of elephants because of the non-observance of speed limits on trains in known elephant corridors is another major cause for concern.

Your editorial "Zero grazing" vs. the Five Freedoms" is probably the best I have read so far.



—S. Chinny Krishna
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The Lost Dogs

I loved your September 2010 review of *The Lost Dogs: Michael Vick's dogs and their tale of rescue & redemption* by Jim Gorant. You are so correct. Now the pressure is on to save all the pits confiscated from dog fighters. And we all know, or should know, that depending on their breeding that may not be possible in many cases, regardless of how much money there is to spend.

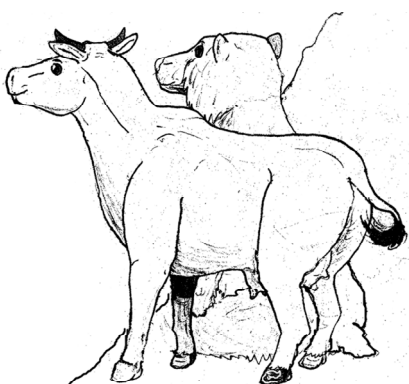


—Dawn Danielson
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TRIBUTES

In honor of all God's creatures.
—Brien Comerford



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Death wish?

Re "American Humane Association approves decompressing chickens," whose great idea was that? I truly believe they have a death wish for the organization.

—Warren S. Cox
Lakeland, Florida
<Warrenscx@aol.com>

***Decompression***

Re "American Humane Association approves decompressing chickens," on page one of the September 2010 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, the American Humane Association always seems to be doing something like this. It is hard to understand why they are still in existence in light of such on-going controversy over many issues.



—Phyllis M. Daugherty, director
Animal Issues Movement
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<ANIMALISSU@aol.com>

ANIMAL PEOPLE Holiday Nut Roast**Mix together:**

- 2 pounds of firm tofu, mashed well
- 2 cups of coarsely chopped walnuts
- (Other nuts may be substituted, such as sunflower seeds or pecans.)

Thoroughly blend in:

- 1/4 cup of soy sauce
- 2 teaspoons thyme leaves
- 1 teaspoon basil leaves
- 2 tablespoons of dried parsley or 1/2 cup of chopped fresh parsley
- 1 finely chopped onion
- 1 teaspoon minced garlic

(Seasonings may be altered to suit preferences. For example, a teaspoon of sage may be added, or you may add more garlic)

Finally, add:

- 1 cup of dried breadcrumbs
- 1/2 cup of whole wheat flour

Mix all ingredients well. Turn into oiled pan(s) and form into a 1-inch thick loaf. Rub the top of the loaf with a very thin coat - ing of olive or other vegetable oil. Cover the

pan(s) with foil, and bake for one hour at 350 degrees Fahrenheit. Take the foil off the pan and cook about 10 minutes longer, until the top of the loaf is browned. The loaf tastes best when crispy.

Serve with cranberry sauce, apple - sauce, or apple butter. Good with vegetari - an gravy and cornbread dressing (you can adapt any traditional recipe by simply substi - tuting vegetable broth or water for the cus - tomary meat broth).

Vegan cornbread**Mix dry ingredients:**

- 1 cup white flour
- 3 Tablespoons sugar
- 3 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup corn meal

Mix wet ingredients:

- 1 cup of soy milk
- 1/4 cup vegetable oil

Stir the two mixtures together until fully moistened. Turn batter into oiled square or round cake pan. Bake 20-25 minutes, until just brown, at 350 degrees.

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Studies reveal injury rates in greyhound & horse racing

SOMERVILLE, Mass.—The Massachusetts-based anti-greyhound racing organization Grey2K USA on October 14, 2010 embarrassed the Iowa greyhound racing industry for the second time in two years by publishing an analysis of injuries to racing greyhounds.

Like the 2009 Grey2K report, the 2010 report is based on data reported to the Iowa Racing & Gaming Commission. The 2009 report detailed injuries suffered by 101 greyhounds during 2008, including 10 greyhounds who were euthanized due to the severity of their injuries.

The 2010 Grey2K report makes clear that 2008 was actually safer for racing greyhounds in Iowa than most years. Altogether, Grey2K found, greyhounds suffered 530 injuries at the two remaining Iowa tracks between January 2006 and August 2010.

Broken legs accounted for 57% of the reported injuries. The remainder involved a range of other conditions. Other fractures, muscle tears, and pulled muscles were next most common. 17% of the injuries—almost twice the rate found in 2008—resulted in euthanasia.

Grey2K USA earlier in 2010 reported that the injury rate at the Wheeling Island Hotel-Casino-Racetrack in West Virginia was the highest at any track it had investigated, with more than 700 injuries to dogs occurring between January 2008

and September 2009, resulting in 62 dog deaths or euthanasias.

The Grey2K findings were affirmed in August 2010, when the Wheeling Island Hotel-Casino-Racetrack suspended racing to begin a \$400,000 track overhaul.

“Records filed with the West Virginia Racing Commission show the number of injuries jumped from an average of 19 per month last year to 27.4 per month for the first seven months of this year,” reported Associated Press writer Vicki Smith. “The rate of catastrophic injuries that a dog would not survive nearly doubled, from 2.1 injuries per 100 races in January to 3.8 per 100 races in July.”

Built in 1976, the Wheeling Island track was last refurbished more than 20 years ago.

The horse racing industry has also been repeatedly embarrassed in recent years by documentation of high rates of injury, but data presented by University of Glasgow epidemiologist Tim Parkin in June 2010 at the third Jockey Club summit on racehorse welfare and safety called into question how much track surfaces really have to do with the frequency of injuries.

The Parkin study “includes information from most racetracks in the United States and Canada,” reported Associated Press writer Jeffrey McMurray, and “covers more than 86% of all flat-racing starts and steeplechase races between November 1, 2008 and October 31, 2009.”

However, McMurray explained, “The results cast little light on one of the hottest debates in horse racing: whether injuries would drop dramatically if dirt tracks converted to a synthetic or rubberized surface. Synthetic tracks did have the lowest fatality rate of any surface tested in the study, 1.78 fatal injuries for every 1,000 starts, but Parkin said it was impossible to draw any conclusions. For dirt tracks, the fatality rate was 2.14 per 1,000. Turf tracks showed an injury rate of 1.78 deaths per 1,000 starts—the same as synthetic tracks.”

In addition, McMurray wrote, “The study found the distance of a race and the weight carried by a horse had a statistically insignificant effect on the injury rate.”

The largest factors in racehorse injury emerging from Parkin’s analysis were the age and gender of the horses.

Explained McMurray, “The study showed colts were fatally injured at a rate of 3.18 times out of every 1,000 starts, with an even higher rate (4.06 per 1,000) for older male horses that hadn’t been gelded. The rate was much lower for fillies (1.84 fatalities per 1,000 starts) and mares (1.66 per 1,000).”

Both critics and defenders of horse racing often attribute high injury rates to people who race their horses too often, too young, but the Parkin study found that two-year-old horses had a rate of suffering fatal injury of only about half the rate found among five-year-olds.

Spanish Senate defeats bill to protect bullfighting as cultural heritage

MADRID—The Spanish Senate on October 6, 2010 by a 129-117 vote rejected a motion to seek to have bullfighting protected by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on a list of monuments, artifacts, and practices defined as part of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. The intent of the bullfighting industry in seeking UNESCO protection of bullfighting was to thwart legislation prohibiting or restricting traditional practices.

Introducing the motion, Pio Garcia Escudero of the opposition Popular Party contended that bullfighting is an art.

“Bullfighting is decadence and this decision today means a popular rejection of this activity,” rebutted Senator Josep Maldonado of Catalan. The Catalan parliament on July 28, 2010 voted 68-55 to ban bullfighting after January 1, 2012. The Canary Islands banned bullfighting in 1991, and Extremadura has banned several practices associated with bullfighting, including tormenting tethered bulls and setting fire to

objects attached to their horns.

Paradoxically, the Catalan parliament not only did not forbid torturing bulls, but specifically authorized many of the traditional abuses of bulls in August 2010, apparently to appease bullfighting enthusiasts ahead of elections set for November 28.

“Run with the bulls, let them tumble into the sea during the chase, even stick fire-works or flaming wax to their horns—but don’t kill them,” summarized Associated Press writer Daniel Wools of the August legislation. The Convergence and Union parties defended the August law as an attempt to protect bulls by limiting how long they may be harassed in spectacles, by requiring that veterinarians examine them afterward for signs of injury or stress, and by prohibiting participation by children under 14 years of age.

Only the Initiative for Catalan Party opposed the legislation and sought to ban spectacles involving bulls altogether.

“The Senate rejected the measure largely because it does not have the authority

to approve bullfighting as an ‘item of cultural interest’ and believes that the issue has to be decided by each of Spain’s autonomous communities,” reported Wang Guanqun of the Xinhua News Service.

China has taken an interest in the rise of opposition to bullfighting in Spain because of repeated efforts by bullfighting promoters to expand Spanish and Portuguese-style bullfighting into China, under cultural pretexts. Bullfights have several times been scheduled in Beijing and Shanghai, but apparently only one has actually been held, in Shanghai in 2004. Public opinion polls have showed since 2000 that more than two-thirds of Beijing and Shanghai residents oppose the introduction of bullfighting. Bullfights would be banned, along with other forms of animal fighting, by a draft national anti-cruelty law which has been widely discussed during the past two years in state media. (*See page 1.*)

Organized political opposition to bullfighting has increased in other parts of Spain, following passage of the Catalan ban

on lethal bullfights. In Castilla y Leon the Socialist Party has committed to prohibiting bullfighting, if elected, including events such as Toro de la Vega festival, held every second Tuesday of September since at least 1453. In this event, staged as a tourist attraction, mounted lancers chase a bull through the streets of the fortified older part of the city, across a bridge over the River Duero and into a lightly forested plain where the bull is speared.

Nacho Paunero, president of the animal rights group El Refugio, told media this year that opinion polls it has commissioned show that 76% of the Castilla y Leon public believe that such events should be ended.

Response to passage of the Catalan bullfighting ban in France is mixed, David Chazan of BBC News reported on October 31, 2010. “French animal welfare groups have been stepping up their campaign to get bullfighting outlawed in France as well,” Chazan noted, “but some towns in the south are planning to stage more bullfights because they’re hoping to attract fans from Spain.”

Rhino poachers hope to outlast South African & Zimbabwean will to stop them

PRETORIA—Poachers in Borakalalo National Park, near Brits, South Africa, sent a message found on October 17, 2010 that mass arrests and rangers shooting to kill won’t stop them: they killed and dehorned yet another white rhino, just days or perhaps even hours after rangers killed one poacher and wounded another in Kruger National Park.

A third poacher was arrested within Kruger National Park two days later, but two others escaped. A rhino fleeing the poachers ran over and injured two park rangers who were involved in making the arrest.

The competence and sincerity of Kruger National Park management in trying to protect rhinos was meanwhile called into question after South African National Parks staff on September 15, 2010 used a helicopter to set a veld fire. The fire killed at least three rhinos, witnesses told Sheree Bega of the *Pretoria News*.

“SANParks described the inferno as a controlled weather-related experiment in Afsaal, in the south of the park, to test the effectiveness of very fast and intense fire in controlling brush. It said it had expected the animals to run away from the blaze,” Bega wrote.

Rhino poaching continued at the rate of about one a day. “Since the beginning of the year,” reported the *Times of Johannesburg* on October 15, 2010, “232 rhino have been poached throughout South Africa, 104 of them from Kruger. A total of 119 alleged poachers have been arrested, 45 of them in the park.” The rhino poaching toll in South Africa has quadrupled in just three years.

Agence France-Presse reported on October 5, 2010 that “South Africa has 26 poaching cases before the courts, with most of the 80 people arrested of Vietnamese origin,” but published lists of the arrestees show that the majority are actually Afrikaners and others of European descent, with indigenous Africans next most numerous. Vietnamese rhino horn brokers, however, are believed to be furnishing the money causing growing numbers of South Africans to turn from catering to trophy hunters to supplying the horn traffic.

South African National Prosecuting Authority organized crime until chief Johan Kruger on October 5, 2010 declared that all rhino poaching will now be treated as a branch of organized crime, not just as a wildlife offense. “This will make it harder for those arrested in connection with rhino poaching to get bail, and those convicted will face longer sentences,” explained Bekezela Phakathi of *Business Day* in Johannesburg.

But just a week later Pretoria High Court Judge Nomonde Mngqibisa-Thusi dismissed charges against one of four men accused of racketeering, money laundering, theft, malicious damage to property, and contravention of the Conservation Act and Aviation Act in connection with rhino poaching. Three days later the judge dropped the charges against the rest.

Kristen van Schlie of Independent Newspapers identified the suspects as hunting safari operators Clayton Fletcher of Bloemfontein and Gert Saaiman of Pretoria, Pretoria hunter Frans Andries van Deventer, and go-between Kumaran Moodaly. “Their alleged syndicate is believed to be responsible for the deaths of at least 17 rhinos countrywide, from Kruger National Park to game farms in Bela Bela and Komatipoort,” wrote van Schlie.

“The operation fell apart on August 23, 2006 when Deon and Nicolaas van Deventer,” brothers of Frans Andries van Deventer, “were arrested leaving Hluhluwe-Imfolozi Park in KwaZulu-Natal,” van Schlie continued. “Four bloody horns were found in their car, fresh off two bulls they killed earlier that day. Along with middleman Pieter Swart, they pleaded guilty and received suspended sentences when they turned state witness.” The trials of the other suspects were delayed for four years, however, while the van Deventers balked at actually giving testimony.

“This is not an acquittal. We have the right to reinstitute charges,” insisted National Prosecuting Authority spokesperson Mthunzi Mhaga.

Among 21 rhino poaching suspects who were arrested and charged in South Africa during September 2010 were at least 11 alleged to have expanded their operations into South Africa after starting in Zimbabwe. All were associated with Out of Africa Adventurous Safaris, a trophy hunting operation that promoted itself via Safari Club International conventions. Two more employees of Out of Africa Adventurous Safaris were arrested in early October 2010.

Out of Africa Adventurous Safaris was expelled from Zimbabwe in September 2004, despite reported close associations between founder Dawie Groenewald and “powerful Zanu-PF members in Zimbabwe, including Kembo Mohadi, the joint home affairs minister, and Jocelyn Chiwenga, the wife of army chief Constantine Chiwenga,” wrote Ray Ndlovu and Yolandi Groenewald of the Joannesburg *Mail & Guardian*.

“Groenewald’s arrest is likely to expose a lot of high-powered people in Zanu-PF who are involved in poaching activities. The case is a time bomb waiting to explode,” predicted Zimbabwe Conservation Task Force founder Johnny Rodrigues. Zanu-PF is the party of Robert Mugabe, who has headed the Zimbabwean government ever since Zimbabwe was formed out of the former Rhodesia in 1984.

Rodrigues told the *Mail & Guardian* that Out of Africa Adventurous Safaris appeared to work with a faction of Zanu-PF supporters called Zhove.

“Zhove invaded five farms in Beitbridge this year,” reported the *Mail & Guardian*. “Zanu-PF’s control of wildlife-rich areas has enabled it to use poached animals to feed soldiers and crowds at political rallies. Wildlife sources said that three elephants and three buffaloes were killed this week to provide meat for supporters at a Zanu-PF rally in Gokwe to open the

Women’s Development Bank.

“Rodrigues said Zhove also sold animal skins to South African poachers, allegedly including Johannes Roos, who has been linked to a shady alliance dubbed the Musina Mafia by locals. Well-placed sources in Musina confirmed that Roos and Groenewald were close associates,” the *Mail & Guardian* continued. “Zimbabwean wildlife sources said that since 2000, when farm invasions began, Zanu-PF loyalists have extended their control over the country’s lucrative safari business, grabbing all the best reserves. Jocelyn Chiwenga reportedly controls all concessions in the Victoria Falls area and deals with wealthy Americans.

“Although Out of Africa was banned from operating in Zimbabwe, it is known within safari industry circles that they have been using an operation called Africa Dream Safaris to hunt in Zimbabwe,” Rodrigues told the *Mail & Guardian*.

“Attempts to get a comment from Africa Dream Safaris were unsuccessful,” the *Mail & Guardian* concluded.

The same day the *Mail & Guardian* exposé appeared brought the arrests of eight alleged rhino poachers at the Nyamacheni Sanctuary in Gurube, including two indigenous Zimbabweans and six men from the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The eight are charged with killing a rhino a month since June 2010.

But Zhove activities continued, massacring 560 eland and 300 zebra for their hides in August and September 2010 near Beit Bridge, according to Rodrigues.

Land invasions apparently inspired by the Zimbabwean example have repeatedly cut into the Nduomo Game Reserve in northern KwaZulu-Natal. Most recently, in the last days of September 2010, 70 invaders destroyed a guard outpost and a bridge, menacing tourists and rangers, reported Groenewald of the *Mail & Guardian*.

“The attack is the latest crisis in the reserve since the wetland and birding area was hit by a land invasion by neighboring communities two years ago, intended to ‘liberate’ it for agriculture. The invading Bhekabantu and eMbangweni communities cut down 12 kilometres of the park’s fence, demanding that they be allowed to farm inside the park. They have since gone on to occupy 14% of the reserve, which includes the most ecological sensitive section of the park,” Groenewald wrote. “Despite the presence of troops, including the defence force patrolling the border, the land invaders continue to practise slash-and-burn cultivation, destroying large areas of mature riverine fig forest. Even more damaging,” Groenewald said, “is rampant poaching and illegal fishing.”

Police on October 13, 2010 found a hippopotamus butchering operation in the Muzi Pans area outside the iSimangaliso Wetland Park in northern KwaZulu-Natal, Colonel Jay Naicker told Jauhara Khan of the KZN *Mercury*. The remains of at least six poached hippos were discovered on the premises, along with 15 cable snares and a crocodile snare.

More health findings hit PMU industry

LOS ANGELES, DALLAS—The fast-falling numbers of horses bred to produce estrogen supplements made from pregnant mares' urine are expected to drop further after publication of new findings from the U.S. government-funded Women's Health Initiative linking estrogen supplements to elevated rates of death from breast cancer and risk of developing kidney stones.

The new findings came eight years after the Women's Health Initiative in July 2002 reported that estrogen supplements appear to be linked to increased risk of women suffering heart attacks, strokes, and blood clots in their lungs.

Based on the Women's Health Initiative study results, the U.S. Food & Drug Administration in February 2003 began requiring all estrogen product labels to carry warnings that the products "may slightly increase the risk of heart attack, stroke, breast cancer, and blood clots." The FDA and most leading medical organizations believe these risks pertain to estrogens from all sources, not just PMU, but since the PMU-based products Primarin and Prempro had by far the largest estrogen supplement market share, their sales decline was steepest.

The Women's Health Initiative breast cancer study looked at women who took the PMU-based estrogen drug Premarin in combination with progestin, a formula sold as Prempro. "Women taking estrogen plus progestin are at greater risk from dying from the two leading causes of cancer death in women," concluded study team leader Rowan T. Chlebowski of the Los Angeles Biomedical Research Institute at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center. Among the 15,387 women who participated in the second phase of the Women's Health Initiative, the death rate from breast cancer among those who did not take estrogen plus progestin was 3.4 per 10,000; the rate among those who did was 5.3, or 40% higher.

The findings appeared in the October 20, 2010 edition of the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, published nearly two years after Chlebowski presented the research to the San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium in December

2008. The January/February 2009 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** summarized the data.

Confirmation of the elevated risk of death from breast cancer associated with taking estrogen supplements came two weeks after the October 11, 2010 edition of *Archives of Internal Medicine* reported the link to risk of developing kidney stones. "Among more than 24,000 postmenopausal women taking either hormones or dummy pills, those using hormones were 21% more likely to develop kidney stones over about five years," summarized Associated Press medical writer Lindsay Tanner. "Those results suggest that over a year's time," assessed Tanner, "among 10,000 postmenopausal women taking hormones, five would develop kidney stones who wouldn't have if they hadn't used the pills. The risks were similar for women taking either Prempro, containing estrogen plus progestin, or Premarin," which contains only estrogen.

Prempro has in recent years been the most popular drug based on Premarin, the long-time top-selling estrogen supplement. Both products were made by Wyeth Inc. until 2009, when Wyeth was sold to Pfizer.

Since publication of the 2002 Women's Health Initiative findings, the volume of prescriptions filled for PMU-based drugs has reportedly fallen from more than 110 million to about 40 million, producing a parallel drop in the numbers of horses kept on PMU farms, and the numbers of PMU farms remaining in business. This trend is expected to continue as PMU product sales further decline.

Along with falling hormone use since 2002, "Breast cancer diagnoses started to drop," summarized *Washington Post* medical writer Rob Stein of the latest Women's Health Initiative findings. "That appeared to help explain one of the

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biggest mysteries about breast cancer—why the number of cases rose steadily for decades. Hormone use probably played a key role," the study results suggest, "along with better detection by mammography and other factors."

PMU was the active ingredient of the first birth control pills for humans, marketed in the late 1940s. The humane community voiced two major concerns about the PMU industry from inception. One was that it involves keeping pregnant mares artificially closely confined, to collect their urine. The other was that impregnating the mares year after year to collect their urine creates a surplus of foals, most of whom were and are sold to slaughter after a few months at pasture.

10-year Vier Pfoten effort to introduce street dog sterilization to Bucharest gets go-ahead

BUCHAREST—"Authorities in Bucharest, Romania, have finally agreed to cease killing stray animals and allow our teams to treat and neuter the city's 40,000 [street] dogs instead," the Vienna-based animal charity Vier Pfoten announced on October 6, 2010.

Vier Pfoten said the pact "may be the biggest breakthrough" in the more than 10 years that it has sent veterinarians to Romania.

The Vier Pfoten dog and cat sterilization project began in Bucharest, then expanded into parallel projects elsewhere in Romania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Jordan, Egypt, and South Africa. The initial project in Bucharest was thwarted, however, when then-Bucharest major Traian Basescu ordered a purge of free-roaming dogs in 2001. Bucharest pounds killed 48,000 dogs that year,

and have continued to kill dogs ever since. Basescu—long controversial for many reasons—meanwhile ascended to the presidency of Romania, and oversaw the admission of Romania to the European Union, whose public health policies disfavor high-volume killing as an animal control method.

Instead of leaving Bucharest in protest against the dog killing, as other outside animal charities did between 2001 and 2004, Vier Pfoten helped the local animal charity Fundatia Speranta to feed and sterilize hundreds of dogs at a badly managed former city pound. Vier Pfoten then built a new shelter for the Fundatia Speranta in 2006 beyond Bucharest jurisdiction, and relocated the dogs.

Along the way Vier Pfoten founder Helmut Dungler hired Iona Tomescu, daugh-

ter of the Fundatia Speranta founder, to manage the Vier Pfoten office in Bucharest. They later married. All the while Vier Pfoten continued to develop and demonstrate high-volume dog and cat sterilization as an alternative to killing animals, working in other Romanian cities and making sure the Bucharest city administration was informed about the results.

"When our first attempt to launch such a project [in Bucharest] failed due to political opposition in 2001, Vier Pfoten made clear that no work would be done in communities where animals are killed," said Dungler.

"In summer 2010, a Vier Pfoten delegation resumed negotiations with the current mayor's office," Dungler said, "and presented the good results achieved elsewhere in Romania. Once talks took a positive direction,

an agreement was eventually reached and signed, confirming the end of sanctioned dog killings and the start of our sterilization efforts as of September 10." Vier Pfoten expects to sterilize an average of 70 dogs per working day in Bucharest.

"As in all previous projects," explained a Vier Pfoten media release, "professional dog catchers bring the animals to our clinic, where they are dewormed, sterilized, and treated for any diseases and other ailments found by Vier Pfoten veterinarians. After that, they are marked with an ear clip and released in the area where they were found.

"The work, which is financed by supporters and donors, is maintained under the strict condition that the killing is over," Vier Pfoten emphasized.

Controlled atmosphere poultry stunning moves ahead (from page 1)

never scalded to death in defeathering tanks, and there is no opportunity for workers to abuse birds" in handling."

Recent studies have found that up to 40% of all poultry slaughtered by conventional methods suffer broken bones during loading for transport, unloading for slaughter, and while being shackled upside down on the conveyor belt that takes them to be mechanically beheaded.

The rate of bone breakage has been reduced to less than 1% in some operations, but even if 1% became the industry standard, 1% of the nine billion chickens who are slaughtered in the U.S. each year would be 900 million.

"Slow induction anesthesia also improves worker conditions," Brooks said, "because chickens do not struggle as slaughterhouse workers handle them."

Actual death in controlled atmosphere systems comes after the chickens are hung and beheaded, but in controlled atmosphere systems the chickens are first rendered permanently insensate.

PETA has since 2004 urged U.S. poultry producers to emulate the controlled atmosphere systems now widely used in Europe. Some, like the systems to be installed by Bell & Evans and Mary's Chicken, use carbon dioxide gas. Others use nitrogen or argon gas.

Under campaign pressure from PETA, McDonald's Corporation and Tyson Foods agreed to study controlled atmosphere poultry stunning in 2004 and 2005, respectively, but eventually both opted to continue using conventional slaughter.

Bell & Evans owner Scott Sechler told Neuman of *The New York Times* that the system his firm will use is superior to the European systems. "Those systems, he says, often deprive birds of oxygen too quickly, which may cause them to suffer," wrote Neuman. "They are also designed to kill the birds, rather than simply knock them out, something that Sechler is not

comfortable with."

Said Sechler, "I don't want the public to say we gas our chickens."

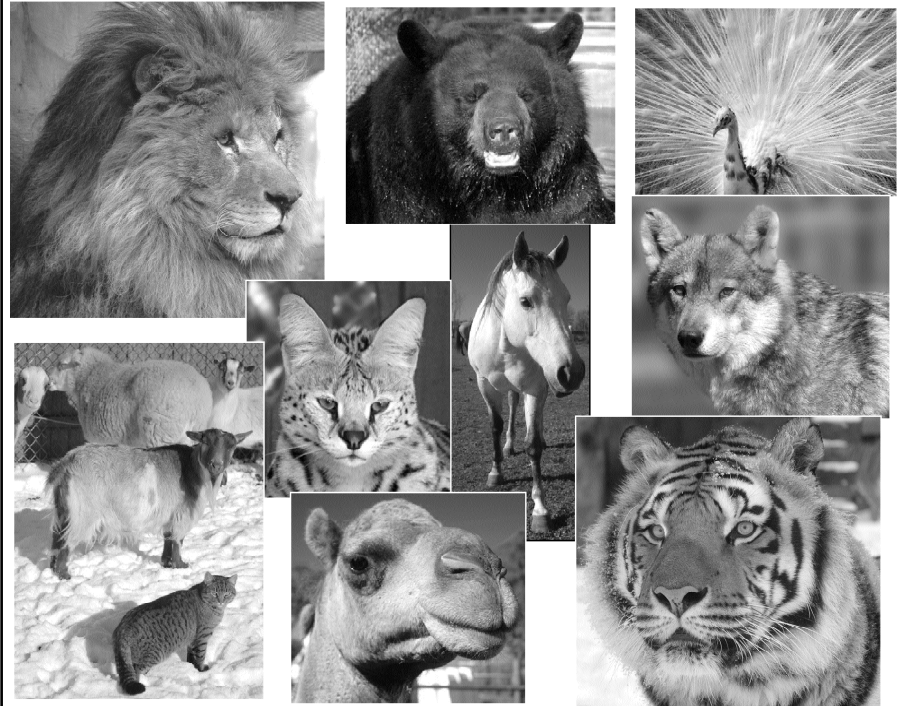
"Anglia Autoflow, the company that is building the knock-out systems for the two processors, calls the process 'controlled atmosphere stunning,'" wrote Neuman, "but Mary's Chickens Pitman said his company was considering the phrase 'sedation stunning' for use on its packages. Also on the short-list," Neuman said, are "humanely slaughtered, humanely processed, and humanely handled.

"Bell & Evans said it would begin selling chickens slaughtered using the new technology in April," Neuman added. "Mary's expects to install the technology in June."

Bell & Evans and Mary's Chicken announced their acceptance of the PETA-favored version of controlled atmosphere stunning six weeks after the American Humane Association on September 7, 2010 endorsed what it termed "a new method of controlled-atmosphere stunning for poultry called Low Atmospheric Pressure System...used to thin the air, reducing available oxygen (similar to high-altitude conditions). Unlike other controlled-atmosphere stunning systems," the AHA said, "it is not necessary to add any gaseous substances—the atmosphere is controlled by reducing the volume of oxygen."

The AHA-approved process is in essence decompression, a killing method not approved by the American Veterinary Medical Association.

Decompressing dogs and cats to kill them, promoted by the AHA for more than 30 years beginning in 1950, eventually became the most used method of shelter killing, but rapidly fell into disrepute after it was abandoned by the cities of Berkeley in 1972, San Francisco in 1976, and Portland, Oregon, in 1977. Houston and Austin were the last two U.S. cities to use decompression. Both quit in 1985.



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Chinese government announces a crackdown on zoo abuses (from page 1)

Activism on behalf of Chinese zoo animals began in the mid-1990s with zoo inspections by Hong Kong physician John Wedderburn who went on to form the Asian Animal Protection Network.

Efforts to reform Chinese zoos have been led in recent years by the Animals Asia Foundation, also based in Hong Kong.

“Bears being punched and beaten with sticks and forced to box, elephants being jabbed with metal hooks to force them to stand on their heads, and tigers and lions with teeth and claws removed, causing chronic pain, are amongst the findings of our investigations at China’s zoos and safari parks,” Animals Asia Foundation founder Jill Robinson e-mailed to donors and media six weeks before the Ministry of Housing & Urban/Rural Development posted its “suggestions.”

Continued Robinson, “From September 2009 to August 2010, Animals Asia Foundation investigators visited 13 safari parks and zoos across China to document wild animal performances. A report released on August 9, 2010 entitled *Performing Animals in Chinese Zoos* details their findings. Showmen frequently engage in negative reinforcement,” Robinson wrote, “whipping and striking the animals repeatedly, forcing them to carry out tricks that go against their natural behavior. Many big cats used in animal per-

formances have had their canine teeth either removed or cut back to gum level and are de-clawed to make them defenseless,” Robinson charged. “Detoothed lions and tigers were evident at five of the 13 parks we surveyed,” she said. “This practice causes severe and chronic pain owing to the exposure of the pulp and nerve endings, and leads to potential infection of the surrounding area, including gums, jaw-bone and nasal region.”

While the Animals Asia Foundation was gathering particulars, the Chinese State Forestry Administration conducted a parallel investigation of its own.

“Our report follows the recent news that the Chinese government is launching a campaign to stop the maltreatment of animals that are held for public display,” Robinson acknowledged. “According to a government statement released on July 29, the State Forestry Administration has accused companies staging animal shows of excessive attention to profit-making, resulting in maltreatment and early death of animals.”

The Animals Asia Foundation investigators found that 90% of the Chinese zoos they visited used Asiatic black bears to perform, 75% of them by obliging the bears to ride bicycles, and half by inducing or forcing the bears to perform on gymnastic rings. 75% of the Chinese zoos exhibited performing monkeys, including monkeys on bicycles; 75% exhibited performing tigers; and half exhibited performing sea lions.

Half of the zoos induced monkeys to perform handstands on the horns of goats, “often while the goat is balancing on a tightrope some 10 feet above the ground,” Robinson continued. “The most common tiger acts force tigers to walk on their back legs, jump through hoops of fire, and walk on top of large balls. Elephants were seen at four parks performing humiliating tricks such as standing on their heads, and spinning on one leg. Of the lesser-seen animal acts,” Robinson said, “two parks force pigs off the end of 10-foot-high platforms into water, and one park exhibits monkeys and dogs jumping over the backs of hippopotami.”

Helping to move Chinese public opinion toward accepting zoo reform were a series of well-publi-

cized incidents and scandals involving zoos.

On October 14, only a week before the Ministry of Housing & Urban/Rural Development posted the “suggestions” for zoos, *Guangzhou Daily* reported that “Five Siberian tigers in a Shenzhen wildlife park ripped apart and killed a 54-year-old zoo worker, who slipped and fell into the tigers’ habitat after cleaning weeds at the corridor bridge above,” translated Wang Hanlu of *People’s Daily Online*.

The most influential incident, however, came to light in March 2010 at the Shenyang Forest Wild Animal Zoo in Liaoning. Wrote *New York Times* correspondent Xijun Yang on March 18, “A zoo where 11 rare Siberian tigers recently starved to death is fast becoming a symbol of the mistreatment of animals in China, with allegations of mis-spent subsidies, bribes, and the deaths of at least dozens of animals. Local authorities have stepped in to take control of the 10-year-old zoo and try to save the remaining 20 or so tigers, three of whom are in critical condition.

“The zoo’s animal population has declined from a high of more than 1,000 to about half that now,” Xijun Yang alleged. “Among the charges under investigation,” Xijun Yang continued, “are employee reports that the zoo used the bones of dead tigers to illegally manufacture a liquor believed to have therapeutic qualities. One employee said he had made vats of the liquor and served it to visiting government officials.

“Court documents show,” Xijun Yang added, that the founder “gave more than \$117,000 in gifts and cash to Mu Suixin, then mayor of the city. Mu was later convicted of taking bribes and died in prison, according to *Nanfang Daily*.”

A Shenyang Forest Wild Animal Zoo tiger mauled a worker in 2004. In 2007 four starving tigers killed and ate another tiger in their exhibit. In November 2009 two tigers mauled worker Yang Jingwei, 51, as he shoveled snow from a path in the zoo. “The attack is attributed to the tigers being starved,” reported *People’s Daily*.

The Shenyang Forest Wild Animal Zoo received significant government subsidies, and had healthy gate receipts too, said *People’s Daily*, but attendance had fallen by half since 2006, and the 260 zoo staff had not been paid in 18 months. Noted *People’s Daily*, “An animal caregiver surnamed Liu at Harbin’s Siberian Tiger Park, the largest natural park for wild Siberian tigers in the world, told the *Global Times* Sunday that the expense of feeding tigers is a burden to some zoos.” Only days later the remains of more than 30 animals who allegedly died of malnutrition were found near the Harbin Northern Forest Zoo, apparently also known as the Siberian Tiger Park. Among them were five white lions, two white tigers, two leopards, and five other large exotic cats.

The Harbin facility was the subject of many reports since

2005, published in both Chinese and western media, about the practice of zoos feeding large carnivores by selling prey species to visitors to throw to the predators alive.

“It is unclear whether this practice is classed as a performance,” under the Ministry of Housing & Urban/Rural Development “suggestions,” said Agence France-Press, but the discussion of properly feeding zoo animals, in conjunction with the discouragement of animal performances, would appear to be a strong hint that the ministry wants live feeding to stop. Chinese zoos operating as educational institutions were enjoined from practicing live feeding in 2000, but zoos operating as purported conservation institutions were allowed to continue live feeding on the pretext that this was preparing endangered species for eventual return to the wild.

Article 45 of the Chinese draft animal welfare bill, produced by an academic committee funded by the Royal SPCA of Great Britain and the International Fund for Animal Welfare, published for comment in mid-2009, states that “during opening times feeding live prey is prohibited.”

At least four major Chinese zoos have been exposed since 2006 for selling wine seasoned with tiger bone, among other products made from body parts of zoo animals. Several other Chinese zoos raise wildlife, including crocodiles, for commercial purposes. Article 48 of the draft animal welfare bill bans these activities, but several other clauses appear to provide broad exemptions.

The draft law is officially undergoing study and revision. State media continue to hint frequently that a national anti-cruelty law is pending, but the exact content and timing of the introduction remain unclear.

Laws, regulations, and “suggestions” parallel to the draft law recommendations have already been introduced to govern other animal use industries.

Notably, *Guangzhou Daily* reported on August 18, 2010, new legislation taking effect in Guangdong province on October 1 “set a series of strict standards for the living conditions, facilities and drinking water provided to animals used in research. Effective anesthesia will be required when laboratory surgeries need to be performed. Euthanasia is also expected to become compulsory.”

Affirmed the Xinhua News Agency on September 9, “According to the Laboratory Animals Management Regulation of Guangdong Province, all lab animals should be anaesthetised before experimental surgeries and animals must be euthanized after experiments, said Zhou Haitao, an official with Guangdong’s provincial department of science and technology.

Under the Guangdong regulation, said the Xinhua News Agency, “if a scientific research is not conducted as required by the law, the results of the experiments, evaluations, and other findings will be deemed invalid. Besides Guangdong,” the Xinhua News Agency added, “other provinces such as Heilongjiang, Guizhou and Yunnan, and municipalities of Beijing and Tianjin have enacted similar regulations.”

EU seal pelt ban upheld

LUXEMBOURG—European Court of Justice Judge Marc Jaeger on October 28, 2010 rejected an appeal against the European Union ban on the import of seal products, clearing the way for full enforcement—at least pending the outcome of Canadian and Norwegian government appeals to the World Trade Association.

The appeal was brought by Inuit sealer Tapirilt Kanatami and 15 co-plaintiffs, including the Canadian Seal Marketing Group, the Fur Institute of Canada, NuTan Furs, the Inuit Circumpolar Conference Greenland, and GC Reiber Skinn AS of Norway. Adopted in July 2009, the EU ban on imports of seal products included an exemption for seal pelts hunted and sold by Inuit. The appeal contended that Inuit seal pelt sales would suffer as result of the ban, despite the exemption. Justice Jaeger ruled that the plaintiffs lacked evidence to document this claim.

The European Union ban officially took effect on August 20, 2010, but the European Court of Justice on August 19 stayed enforcement against the plaintiffs.

The Inuit kill about 10,000 adult seals per year. The Atlantic Canada commercial hunt kills about 325,000 juvenile seals per year.

Maximum fine does not save ducks from oily ponds

EDMONTON—Attorneys for the oil sands extraction giant Syncrude Canada on October 22, 2010 agreed in the St. Alberta, Alberta provincial court that Syncrude will pay the maximum allowable penalties under both Alberta law and Canadian federal law for causing the deaths of 1,600 ducks in an oil-saturated tailings pond near Aurora, Alberta on April 28, 2008.

On October 25, 2010 Syncrude Canada allegedly repeated the offense at another location.

“According to the last available count, about 230 ducks who landed on the Mildred Lake tailings pond were euthanized after they were covered in oil,” reported Hanneke Brooymans of PostMedia News.

“What we understand so far is that one of the contributing factors may have been freezing rain. In those types of weather conditions the best bird deterrents wouldn’t be effective,” said Alberta Environment spokesperson Cara Tobin.

Suncor spokesperson Dany Laferriere reported 40 duck deaths in Suncor tailings ponds. Shell Canada reported two, Brooymans wrote.

University of Alberta associate professor of biology Colleen Cassady St. Clair told Brooymans that the Syncrude facilities are in particularly bad locations. Both the Aurora pond and the Mildred Lake pond are close to the Athabasca River bird migration corridor.

In addition, wrote Brooymans, “Mildred Lake is more toxic than other tailings ponds because it’s 32

years old and contains water that has been recycled repeatedly, meaning the water becomes increasingly toxic over time and more likely to contain bitumen.”

While birds can be rescued from some oily environments, St. Clair said, “My impression from the literature is that birds who land on bitumen-containing water bodies are as good as dead. As an animal behaviorist I think the kindest thing to do for those birds is to euthanize them quickly and as painlessly as possible.”

Syncrude Canada spokesperson Cheryl Robb “said the circumstance of these duck deaths were different from those linked to the incident that led to the \$3 million fine. It did have the deterrent system deployed at the Mildred Lake tailings pond,” Brooymans wrote. “A late spring storm had prevented the company from setting up equipment at the Aurora tailings pond in 2008. And this time the company was also able to get out on the water right away to pick up the birds.”

“We thought we had closed the book on this and significantly improved the performance, the commitment to the bird deterrent systems,” Alberta environment minister Rob Renner told Frank Landry of the *Edmonton Sun*.

“It is frustrating that now we find ourselves back in that situation,” Renner said.

Alberta judge Ken Tjosvold on October 22 fined Syncrude \$300,000 under federal law and \$500,000 under provincial law for the April 2008 bird deaths.

Reported CBC News, “A

research project into bird migration and the effectiveness of bird deterrents at the University of Alberta will also receive \$1.3 million. Other beneficiaries include the Alberta Conservation Association, which will receive \$900,000, and the environmental program at Keyano College in Fort McMurray, which will receive half of the \$500,000 provincial fine.” The fines followed a two-month trial.

Said Robb of Syncrude, “We’ve learned a lot and we made significant changes to our system and we’re ready to move forward.”

That was on Friday afternoon. On Monday morning ducks began landing in the Mildred Lake pond.


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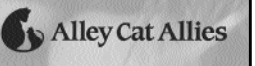
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Madeleine Pickens buys 14,000 acres for her long-promised wild horse sanctuary

RENO—Madeleine Pickens, owner of the Del Mar Country Club in Rancho Santa Fe, California, and wife of Texas oil billionaire T. Boone Pickens, in early October 2010 purchased the 14,000-acre Spruce Ranch, 70 miles east of Elko, Nevada, as proposed home for many of the 36,000 wild horses presently kept in Bureau of Land Management holding facilities. Pickens' plan is reportedly to start with 1,000 horses, adding more as the securely fenced portion of the Spruce Ranch is expanded to keep horses inside, and as facilities are built to accommodate visitors.

"Pickens purchased the ranch, which she plans to rename the Mustang

Monument preserve, for an undisclosed price. The property comes with grazing rights on 540,000 acres of public land," reported Associated Press writer Martin Griffith. "Pickens also is negotiating to buy an adjoining 4,000-acre ranch that has grazing rights for 24,000 acres of public land," Griffith added.

Pickens in November 2008 proposed starting a quasi-wild mega-sized sanctuary for horses removed from public lands, but the Bureau of Land Management rejected her first suggested site because it was not wild horse habitat when the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act was enacted in 1971. The Nevada site, however, is close to the largest

wild horse herds in the U.S.

"I'm sure, like with any new project, this will take us a little time," Pickens posted in a web site message to supporters. "However," she said, "we are working tirelessly to get this completed."

Pickens' land buy came about two weeks after she attended a press conference at which New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson discussed details of a plan to use \$2.9 million in federal economic stimulus money to expand Cerrillos Hills State Park, 20 miles south of Santa Fe, by adding the former Ortiz Mountain Ranch to it and turning it into the largest wild horse sanctuary in the world.

The BLM estimates that there are currently 38,000 wild horses left on the range in 10 western states.

Western ranchers and hunters have long sought wild horse removals, seeing the horses as competitors with cattle, sheep, elk, and wild bighorn sheep for grass and water. Opposition to the presence of wild horses has also come recently from conservationists who consider horses an invasive species—although modern horses evolved millions of years ago in what is now the U.S. west, and were apparently extinct in North America for only about 10,000 years before being reintroduced by Spanish invaders about 500 years ago.



Events

Nov. 16: *It's raining cats & dogs: feline & canine legal issues*, Washington State Bar Association seminar in Seattle. Info: 1-800-945-WSBA, or <<http://bit.ly/rainingdogscats>>.

Nov. 20: *Celebrations for the Turkeys* at Farm Sanctuary sites in Orlands, Calif., and Watkins Glen, New York. Info: <www.adop-taturkey.org/aat/celebration/>.

Dec. 2-5: *East & Central Africa Vegetarian Congress*, Nairobi, Kenya. Info: <lila-dharbharadia@yahoo.com>; <nigveganimal@yahoo.com>; <www.ivu.org/africa/nairobi>.

Dec. 3: Deadline for applications for dogs to represent all St. Louis shelter pets at *Bark in the Park* on May 21, 2011. Info: <www.hsomo.org>.

Dec. 12: *Animal Rights Action Network rally* in Cork, Ireland. Info: <arancampaigns@eircom.net>.

2011

January 29-31: *India for Animals* conf., Chennai. Info: Fed. of Indian Animal Welfare Groups, c/o <fsowmya@indiananimalsfederation.org>.

Feb. 25-26: *Sex, Gender & Species* conf., Wesleyan U., Middletown, Connecticut. Info: <lgruen@wesleyan.edu> or <kweil@wesleyan.edu>.

March 31-April 1: *Thinking About Animals*, Brock University, St. Catharines, Ontario. Info: <ac2011@BrockU.CA>.

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EC to seek suspension of cloning animals for food

BRUSSELS—European Union commissioner in charge of health and consumer policy John Dalli on October 19, 2010 announced that the European Commission, in its capacity as advisory body to the European Parliament, “will propose a temporary suspension of animal cloning for food production in the EU.”

Explained a prepared brief, “The Commission also plans to suspend temporarily the use of cloned farm animals and the marketing of food from clones. All temporary measures will be reviewed after five years. The establishment of a traceability system for imports of reproductive materials for clones, such as semen and embryos of clones, is also envisaged. The system will allow farmers and industry to set up a database with the animals that would emerge from these reproductive materials.”

Dalli said the suspension of cloning by meat, egg, and dairy producers “is a response to calls from the European Parliament and member states to launch a specific EU policy on this sensitive issue. I believe that the temporary suspension constitutes a realistic and feasible solution to respond to the present welfare concerns.”

The proposal will not suspend animal cloning for uses other than food, such as research, conservation of endangered species, or the use of animals in producing pharmaceuticals.

“In the Commission’s view,” said the prepared statement, “a selective mixture of measures,” accompanied by review after five years, “will sufficiently address animal welfare concerns without introducing unnecessary and unjustifiable restrictions.”

The proposal “acknowledges the challenges posed by animal welfare issues and takes into consideration the ethical facet of cloning,” the prepared statement continued. “It also notes that there is no scientific evidence confirming food safety concerns regarding foods obtained from cloned animals or their offspring,” the statement added.

“Food from cloned animals is safe. In fact, the scientific opinion is that it cannot be differentiated in any way from food from normally bred animals. The issue is animal welfare,” Dalli told media.

“The five-year moratorium proposed by the Commission would cover imports of live clones from outside the 27-nation EU, but imports of embryos and semen from clones would be allowed,” report-

ed Charlie Dunmore of Reuters, “provided that operators follow proposed traceability rules. That means EU producers would also be free to sell food products derived from the offspring of clones, provided they import the necessary genetic material from the U.S. or elsewhere.”

Responded Eurogroup for Animals director Sonja Van Tichelen, “We do not accept the Commission’s position that it would be impossible to enforce a ban that includes the offspring of cloned animals, as (other) meat traceability systems are already in place.”

The European Parliament in September 2008 passed a resolution favoring a total ban on cloning, then asked the EC to produce a report on cloning, which Dalli earlier in 2010 pledged to complete by the end of the year.

The EC plans to formally propose to ban livestock cloning in 2011, spokesperson Frederic Vincent told reporters after Dalli spoke. “We believe that our proposal will be compatible with World Trade Organization rules,” Vincent said.



Humane Society Legislative Fund candidates did well

WASHINGTON D.C.— Among 298 midterm election candidates endorsed by the Humane Society Legislative Fund, 238 were declared winners by noon on November 3, 2010, 46 lost, and 14 were in races still undecided.

In Washington state the HSLF endorsement of incumbent Senator Patty Murray, a Democrat, may prove pivotal. Murray held a 1% margin over Republican challenger Dino Rossi as **ANIMAL PEOPLE** went to press, with a recount certain.

Elsewhere, among 20 U.S. Senate candidates endorsed by the HSLF, 17 were declared winners.

Only two lost. The HSLF endorsement may have helped U.S. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, in particular, who was trailing in the polls for much of the 2010 campaign, but ended up winning 50% of the vote, to just 45% for “Teaparty” favorite Sharron Angle.

“We are pleased that we could help to re-elect many leaders on animal protection issues in Congress who were in competitive races, such as Senators Reid and Barbara Boxer of California, and Representatives Peter DeFazio of Oregon, Jim Gerlach of Pennsylvania, and Dave Reichert of Washington,” said HSLF

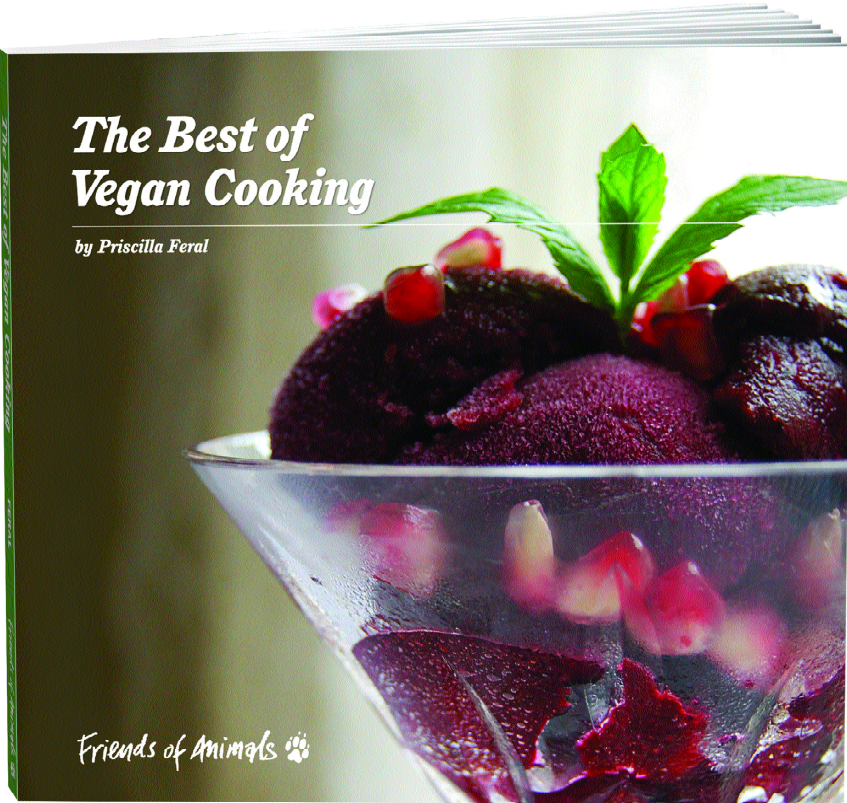
president Mike Markarian.

Among 221 House candidates endorsed by HSLF, 180 won, 28 lost, and 13 were in races still too close to call at press time.

HSLF television ads aired in suburban Detroit may have provided the 1% margin of victory for incumbent Representative Gary Peters, a Democrat.

HSLF support of one of the House losers, New Jersey 3rd Congressional District Democratic incumbent John Adler, was not shared by longtime New Jersey animal advocate Stuart Chaifetz, who sent out pre-election e-mail reminders

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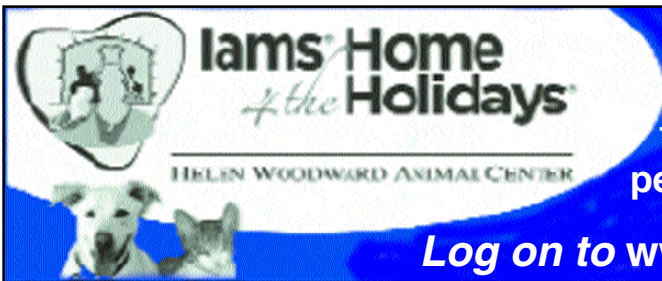
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that Adler worked to repeal the former state prohibition of hunting on Sundays. Adler further eroded his credibility with humane voters by declaring in an October 5 appeal to hunters that, “As a member of the Congressional Sportsmen’s Caucus, I advocate for pro-hunting policies.” Adler lost to former Philadelphia Eagles linebacker Jon Runyan by 3.1% of the vote.

The HSLF endorsed only one gubernatorial candidate, incumbent Ted Strickland of Ohio—who lost to Republican challenger John Kasich. Strickland in June 2010 brokered a deal between a coalition called Ohioans for Humane Farms and the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation which kept an initiative to reform farm animal practices off the 2010 state ballot, in exchange for a promise that the Ohio Livestock Care Standards Board will do many of the same things that the initiative would have required.

HSLF, a subsidiary of the Humane Society of the U.S., enjoyed a bit more success in helping favored candidates than the Defenders of Wildlife Action Fund. Defenders of Wildlife sought unsuccessfully to keep former New Mexico member of the House of Representatives Steve Pearce, a Republican, from returning to the House, after resigning his seat in 2008 to run unsuccessfully for the U.S. Senate. Pearce is noted for his vehement opposition to the reintroduction of Mexican grey wolves to New Mexico and Arizona.

Though the Democrats might have kept the House majority if all candidates endorsed by animal welfare and conservation groups won, historically most major pro-animal legislation has been passed by divided Congresses. Because animal issues tend to split across party lines, pro-animal bills may be acceptable to Congressional majorities of both Republicans and Democrats at times when division along party lines prevents passing anything else.



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Missouri voters approve anti-puppy mill initiative

(from page 1)

ingly rejected by conservative rural voters, but the proposition forged ahead as urban and suburban returns came in, ultimately capturing 52% of the vote.

Missourians for the Protection of Dogs campaign manager Barbara Schmitz estimated that there are as many as 3,000 dog breeders in Missouri, producing up to 30% of all puppies sold in U.S. pet stores. Among the Missouri breeders are 1,431 USDA license holders, up to 1,500 breeders who are registered only with the Missouri Department of Agriculture, and 500 to 600 unlicensed breeders who will be subject to the Proposition B regulations. The operators, families, and employees of those breeders were numerically a formidable force, especially aligned with hunters and agribusiness, but attracted much less outside financial support than they might have anticipated.

Two weeks before the election, the three alliances opposing Proposition B had among them raised less than \$175,000, wrote Melanie Loth of the *Columbia Missourian*. Supporters had raised \$3.5 million, including \$1.16 from HSUS, \$250,000 from Best Friends, \$200,000 from the ASPCA, and \$73,000 from individual Missourians.

About \$1 million was invested in television advertising featuring Tony La Russa, manager of the St. Louis Cardinals since 1996, who was identified

in the ads in his role as cofounder, with his wife Elaine, of Tony La Russa's Animal Rescue Foundation, in Walnut Creek, California. Begun in 1991, when Tony La Russa managed the Oakland Athletics, the foundation rehomes about 2,000 dogs and cats per year, including many dogs who have been impounded from "puppy mills" by law enforcement.

But the most influential source of support for Proposition B may have been just the frequency of Missouri "puppy mill" incidents. In February 2010, for example, 58 dogs and five horses were killed in a kennel fire at Frankfort. In March 2010 humane organizations accommodated 55 dogs from an unlicensed breeder in Stone County. In June 2010 the Humane Society of Missouri took in 108 dogs from a breeder who was raided by the Miller County Sheriff's Department. On September 21, 2010, the Humane Society of Missouri, the ASPCA, and the Southwest Missouri Humane Society collaborated to

accept the surrender of more than 90 dogs from a financially struggling breeder in Camden County and to simultaneously rescue 45 starving dogs from an unlicensed breeder in Greene County.

Missouri has regulated dog breeders to a lesser extent than Proposition B provides since 1992. "Another state program, Operation Bark Alert, has a tip hotline and cracks down on unlicensed breeders," recounted *Neosho Daily News* reporter Amye Buckley. "Last year six warrants were issued to breeding kennels with substandard conditions, 164 breeders were shut down from more than 200 tips and 3,000 dogs were seized.

Other initiatives

Humane organizations led by the HSUS subsidiary Humane Society Legislative Fund claimed victory in two other major ballot initiative campaigns.

In Arizona, "which was our second priority," HSUS president Pacelle said, voters

crushed Proposition 109, an attempt to enshrine hunting as a right guaranteed by the state constitution, 57% to 43%. Proposition 109 would have given the state legislature the sole authority to make laws regulating hunting, fishing, and trapping, obstructing efforts to pass initiatives on wildlife issues. "the numbers are looking good in our effort to defeat Prop 109. This was the effort pushed by the National Rifle Association," Pacelle blogged, "and it was a power grab. The NRA poured in hundreds of thousands of dollars, but we rose to that challenge and told the people of Arizona that this was an attempt to take away their voting rights."

In Oklahoma, State Question SQ 750 eked out 50.4% of the vote. This, Humane Society Legislative Fund president Mike Markarian explained, "would streamline the ballot initiative process in Oklahoma and allow a consistent standard for petitioning to qualify ballot initiatives, including on animal protection subjects."

Greyhound neglect case

Though dog breeder neglect cases seem to surface about as often in Missouri as snags along the Missouri and Mississippi rivers, the case on television as voters went to the polls on November 2, 2010 was neither in Missouri nor a puppy mill case. It was, however, one of the worst cases of racing greyhound neglect on record.

Responding to complaints from neighbors about vile odors, sheriff's deputies in Washington County, Florida, on the evening of October 29 found 33 dead greyhounds and four more close to death, three with duct tape wrapped around their necks that constricted their breathing. Trainer Ronald John Williams, 36, of Ponce De Leon, was charged with 37 counts of felony cruelty to animals.

Sheriff's deputies in nearby Walton County on Halloween found another eight dead dogs near Williams' home.

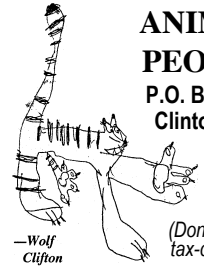
The Florida Department of Business & Professional Regulation revoked Williams' parimutual license on election day. Williams had reportedly been fined 12 times for various violations since 1994.

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That did little to get Brady out of the doghouse.

North Dakota rejects initiative that would have banned canned hunts of deer & elk

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation seeks cruelty charges against alleged snow machine “hunters”

Rory Kuenzi in October 2004 was released on \$10,000 bond pending charges in a fatal hit-and-run accident. Charges were never filed, Waupaca County District Attorney John Snider told *Post-Crescent* staff writer Dan Wilson, due to investigative procedural errors.

There are 103 elk and deer farms in North Dakota,

Video of singer killing tame bear may have helped in eastern N.D.

Initially charged with felony violation of the Lacey Act, which prohibits transporting illegally obtained wildlife across state lines. Gentry pleaded guilty to improperly tagging

There are more than 7,000 deer-and-elk breeders and 2,600 hunting ranches in the U.S., as a whole, according to a 2007 study by the Agricultural & Food Policy Center at Texas A&M University.

Montgomery Gentry was under contract to Columbia Records from 1999 until September 17, 2010, when the band and the label split.

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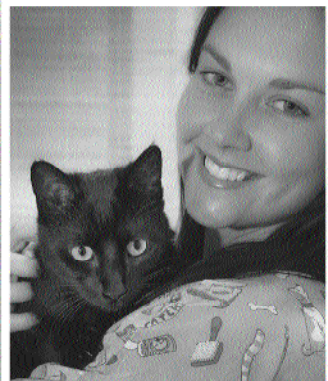
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Pakistan flood recedes but animal welfare crisis is still underway

KARACHI—Floods that swamped more than a fifth of Pakistan receded in October 2010, but the resultant animal welfare crisis may have just begun.

“According to the Department of Livestock,” e-mailed Pakistan Animal Welfare Society founder Mahera Omar, “1.2 million mammals and six million poultry died in the floods. At least two million hectares of cultivatable land were damaged. If the planting seasons are missed, both livestock and people will continue to suffer for a long time.”

Of the 21 million Pakistanis who were affected by the flooding, eight million remained displaced in late October, reported the United Nations. How many animals were in need was anyone’s guess. Many were slaughtered and eaten, often under primitive conditions that were suspected of contributing to outbreaks of Congo-Crimean hemorrhagic fever among butchers who handled tick-infested cattle.

Omar, fellow members of PAWS, and the staff of the Karachi Animal Hospital had barely begun their first relief mission in August 2010 when their driver had to make a sudden U-turn to avoid a mob looting trucks.

“A couple of our team members visited Thatta a few days earlier,” Omar reported, “where they witnessed the mass exodus of people and their animals from villages to the city. It reminded them of scenes from the 1947 partition of Pakistan from India. The same kind of bullock carts, the same sea of humanity on foot mile after mile, the same worried looks on peoples’ faces. Most sent their women and children ahead on trucks, and were on foot with all their animals. Some tried to help baby buffaloes back on their feet, but the young animals simply couldn’t keep up with the rest of the herd. Again and again our team members spotted men huddled on the side of the road over their collapsed animals, eventually having to leave them behind.”

“The care and concern of the people for their animals was evident wherever we went,” Omar said. “Some people hadn’t



A young buffalo enjoys a drink. (Pakistan Animal Welfare Society)

received any relief goods from the government themselves, yet were busy making sure their remaining animals survived.”

The PAWS team treated 28 animals on their day in the field before running out of supplies and daylight—barely more than a symbolic beginning, but valuable in gaining understanding of how best to help.

On a September 5 relief mission some of the wheat straw bales the PAWS team brought to feed starving animals broke apart. “Every last piece of straw was painstakingly gathered by the people and carted away by hand and on donkey carts,” Omar observed.

By mid-October PAWS was able to work on a much larger scale. Joining the PAWS relief effort on October 10, Australian volunteer Melanie Parkinson helped to treat buffaloes, goats, and a dog at Tando Hafiz Shah in Thatta District. “Other vet teams worked on donkeys, goats, oxen, and camels,” Parkinson wrote. “They were treated for parasites, skin disorders, malnourishment, fevers, injuries, maggots, eye problems, foot and mouth disease, rheumatism and a gamut of other problems. More than 170 animals were seen. And 100 bales of wheat straw, 600 kilograms of goat feed, 340 kilograms of donkey feed and 100 kilograms of chicken feed were given out—enough to feed 200 buffaloes, 40 goats and 1,666 chickens for a day.”

Volcano taxes Indonesian rescuers

YOGYAKARTA—“Animal conditions are really bad and sad,” e-mailed Rosek Nurashid of ProFauna on October 31, 2010 from the shadows of Mount Merapi, Indonesia, hours before it erupted for the third of five times in a week. Each new blast made the already catastrophic situation worse.

“Many cows are hungry and dying,” Nurashid wrote. “ProFauna is trying to provide food and medicine. It’s hard to find grass, because almost all the grass around Merapi is covered by dust, so our team is looking for the grass from other regions.”

Similar reports came from Mary Lee Stenson of the Jakarta Animal Aid Network, the first outside animal welfare organization to reach the Mount Merapi region. Asked for help on October 27 by Animal Friends Jogja, of Yogyakarta, a city of nearly 400,000 people sprawling below the volcano, JAAN and Center for Orangutan Protection volunteers “pooled their own money to join the rescue team,” Stenson said.

Their two-vehicle convoy rescued an eagle from a wildlife trafficker on their way to the scene. On arrival, Stenson wrote, “Volunteers swept a deserted village and found chickens, caged birds, rabbits, dogs and cats. The dogs were wandering around hungry and completely covered with ashes.”

“The last time Merapi erupted, in 2006,” Stenson recalled, “there were two weeks for people to start evacuation and relocation,” before the actual eruption. This time, Stenson said, “Only 24 hours after the first alert, the volcano spat hot ash. Many of the 3,000 cows on the slopes of the mountain were burned alive. Thirty-six people were killed.”

Two more people died later. The Indonesian National Disaster Mitigation Agency told Reuters that 69,533 people were evacuated. Most could not take their animals.

The toll from the disaster also included at least 431 human deaths from a tsunami that struck the Mentawai Islands off Sumatra, triggered by the same earthquake that apparently awakened Merapi. Five days after the tsunami another 88 people were still unaccounted for. No information was available about animal casualties.

Back at Merapi, JAAN on October

29 “visited the tourist area where many macaque monkeys live,” Stenson said, “but the team found only extremely dry tree tops and heard the occasional loud cracking of falling branches. Eerily, there were no sounds of life. The team left food behind for the macaques in case they returned.”

ProFauna the same day found half a dozen troupes of starving macaques at Ngargomulyo village in Magelang district. At another village, Kaliurang, they found leopard tracks. Somehow both the macaques and the leopards had survived, but had begun raiding abandoned houses in search of food.

By October 31 the macaques JAAN sought reappeared. Both JAAN and ProFauna focused on trying to prevent conflict between the wildlife and displaced humans. “The macaques seemed in reasonable condition,” wrote Stenson, “and fortunately the team could not spot any wounds from burning. The team will feed them daily,” Stenson pledged.

Meanwhile, Stenson said, “Farmers are stopping our trucks, shouting for help for their livestock.” Feeding the numbers of cattle in the vicinity required more help than JAAN and ProFauna could even begin to provide.

“The eruption may slow the regency’s target to become a cow breeding hub,” understated Slamet Susanto of the *Jakarta Post*. “Some 32,000 out of 52,000 heads of cattle in the regency are breeding cows,” Susanto explained, “who annually produce more than 14,000 calves. Based on Bantul Agriculture, Fishery & Animal Husbandry data,” Susanto said, “about 80% of the cattle breeders sell calves aged between three and five months to feedlots.”

CONTACTS:

Jakarta Animal Aid: Jalan Kemang Timur Raya #17A, South Jakarta, 12730, Indonesia; 62-21-7802556; <info@jakartaanimalaid.com>; <www.jakartaanimalaid.com>.

ProFauna Indonesia: Jl. Raya Candi II #179, Klaseman, Karangbesuki, Malang, Indonesia 65146; 62-341-7066769; fax 62-341-569506; <international@profauna.org>; <www.profauna.org>.

The “bloodhounds” feared in the 19th century were a different breed of dog

Wrote Jim Gorant of pit bull terriers in *The Lost Dogs: Michael Vick’s dogs & their tale of rescue & redemption*:

“In the 19th century a different breed of dog was considered so vicious and insidious that it inspired almost universal fear and loathing. That breed was the bloodhound.”

Gorant merely restated a claim often made for decades by pit bull advocates and opponents of breed-specific legislation, but anti-dogfighting blogger Dawn James—an animal rights activist for more than 30 years—found this difficult to believe.

For starters, James was aware that no dog identified as a bloodhound has ever killed or disfigured anyone in the 28 years that **ANIMAL PEOPLE** editor Merritt Clifton has logged dog attack deaths and disfigurements.

James embarked on an exploration of 19th and early 20th century canine history that turned up evidence that the once feared “bloodhounds” did not share any recorded lineage with the bloodhounds of today.

Along the way, James also discovered documentation contradicting several other common beliefs about pit bulls. Aggression toward humans was not demonstrably bred out of fighting dog lineages, James found. Nor was aggression toward humans bred out of the first line of pit bulls sold to the public.

Also, James learned, the early film character Buster Brown’s pit bull Tige was no cuddly child’s pet. Buster Brown, created by comic strip artist Richard Outcault in 1902, was the prototype for an entire genre of humor reversing the stereotype of the young innocent. Tige, in four 1904 Thomas Edison film shorts, twice attacks humans and once attacks another dog.

English bloodhounds, the big-headed, floppy-eared dogs caricatured as McGruff the Crime Dog by the National Crime Prevention Council, “made their way to the United States around 1880,” James found. “The first importer of [English] bloodhounds was Jenks L. Winchell of Fair



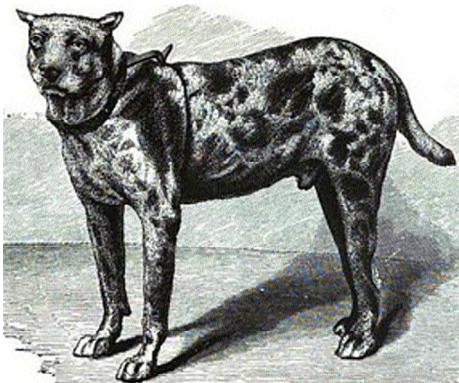
Russian bloodhound, mid-19th century.

Haven, Vermont. Winchell became first president of the English Bloodhound Club of America. But, though Winchell began selling purebred litters in 1881, English bloodhounds were so slow to develop a fancy that the American Kennel Club had registered just 14 by 1889. They did, however, command prices of \$1,000 apiece—more, at the time, than most Americans’ annual income.

A different “bloodhound” was the dog considered dangerous, most often called a Cuban bloodhound, sometimes called a Russian or Siberian bloodhound. Some sources say these were different breeds but the few available engravings and photographs of these dogs show dogs looking much alike—but not like scent hounds of any sort, and nothing like McGruff the Crime Dog.

“The so-called Cuban Bloodhound which was used in Jamaica and the Southern States was not a bloodhound in the true sense of the word,” wrote fancier Walter Dyer in a 1917 article for the magazine *New Country Life*. “He probably possessed less hound than mastiff blood, with perhaps an infusion of bulldog,” Dyer suggested.

“The White English Bulldog Preservation Society describes Cuban Bloodhounds as similar to the Presa Canario



Cuban bloodhound from Andersonville Prison

or the Dogo Argentino, dogs that most people classify as pit bull type dogs,” James notes. “The society describes the dog used by the United States Army during the Seminole Indian War as ‘easily mistaken for an American pit bull terrier,’” yet says “‘History records this to be a Cuban Blood-hound, known in the South today as the Brindle Bulldog.’”

Continues James, “The White English Bulldog Preservation Society contends that the Cuban Bloodhound is the ‘direct ancestor of the Brindle Bulldog and Old Red Bulldog of Louisiana and Mississippi.’”

An 1870 article in *Oliver Optic’s Magazine*, James found, asserted that “The bloodhound of the south, perhaps known best as the Cuban bloodhound, is not of the genuine breed, but is descended from the Biscayne Mastiff, and is trained to fight as well as to hunt.”

Five years earlier, James discovered, a Confederate prison guard named Henry Wirz was hanged by the Union for setting Cuban bloodhounds on Union troops at the notorious Andersonville Prison—and someone drew a picture of one of the dogs.

Massachusetts banned Cuban and Siberian bloodhounds in 1886, but in 1892 created an exemption for any “English bloodhound, of pure blood, whose pedigree is recorded or would be entitled to record in the English bloodhound herd book.”

In Newburyport, Massachusetts, dogfighter John P. Colby meanwhile began breeding pit bull terriers, producing his first litter in 1889. The *Boston Globe* on December

29, 1906 reported that police shot one of his dogs, who mauled a boy while a girl escaped.

On February 2, 1909 the *Globe* described how one of Colby’s dogs killed Colby’s two-year-old nephew, Bert Colby Leadbetter.

“Prior to John P. Colby’s breeding program, 1889-1941, breeders and fanciers of pit bulls bred for fighting were a tight group,” James wrote. “According to a July 1994 issue of the *Registrar for International Sportsman*, ‘The finest dogs were only passed to family and the most trusted friends and the secrecy of their lineage was closely guarded. Colby broke this long-held tradition by offering stud services and pit bull puppies to the ‘common man.’ The *Sportsman* article also notes that Colby was a charter member of the Staffordshire Club of America and backed them in ‘forcing the breed’s acceptance’ into the registry of the American Kennel Club,” James continued. “In 1936 the AKC accepted the breed, but only under the name ‘Staffordshire.’ As a standard for the Staffordshire breed, the AKC chose the fighting dog known as Colby’s Primo.

“After Colby’s death in 1941,” James blogged, “his wife Florence continued the Colby breeding program. She was also the president of the Staffordshire Club of America. As stated in the *Sportsman* article, she ‘worked closely with the screening process of the American pit bull terrier into the American Kennel Club under the name Staffordshire.’”

Two of Colby’s sons helped to popularize pit bulls: Joseph Colby, author of *American Pit Bull Terrier* (1936), and Louis Colby, co-author with Diane Jessup of *Colby’s Book of the American Pit Bull Terrier*.



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—Wolf Clifton

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Can “Heritage” status save elephants in ever more crowded India? (from page one)

was not previously noticed due to faulty research and corrupt management in some tiger reserves.

Even as Ramesh spoke to declare “National Heritage status for elephants, the Lal Kuan/Bareilly Express hit a young elephant in the Tanda Range Forest of Uttarakhand. Corbett National Park veterinarian Gautam Bhalla expected the elephant to live, after providing aid with the help of reportedly the first X-ray machine to be trucked into the forest on an elephant rescue mission.

A government-appointed 12-member Elephant Task Force requested that elephants be given National Heritage Animal status on August 31. Task force member Suparna Ganguly, who heads the Bangalore animal charity Compassion Unlimited Plus Action, pronounced herself “absolutely motivated and excited” over the declaration.

“This should have been done many years ago,” Ganguly told Ignatius Pereira of *The Hindu*. “The precarious condition of elephants in India warrants more resources,” Ganguly said. “If the world needs the elephant, India has to take the lead for it.”

“Since the elephant has been declared a National Heritage Animal,” said People for Animals founder and former animal welfare minister Maneka Gandhi, “there can no more be private ownership of elephants. A national property cannot be owned by private individuals. All temples and private individuals owning elephants should immediately surrender them to the government. Has the machinery for that been constituted? The setup for that has to be evolved, and then there should be rescue centers for elephants,” Mrs. Gandhi told Pereira.

“There should also be punishment for private individuals if they happen to keep this National Heritage Animal. Unless there are enforcement rules, the declaration may not serve its purpose,” Mrs. Gandhi warned.

Animal Welfare Board of India member A.G. Babu of Kottayam, Kerala state, pointed out that “Already there is a heritage status for the elephant, as people see elephants as symbolic of Lord Ganesha,” the elephant-headed Hindu god.”

Elephants were named a National Heritage Animal almost a year after the Central Zoo Authority of India ordered that elephants may no longer be exhibited by zoos and circuses. The order affected about 140 of the 3,500 captive elephants in India—a fraction of the number kept by temples and private individuals who lease elephants for advertising and ceremonial purposes.

“Some elephants have been transferred from Guwahati Zoo, Lucknow Zoo, and plans are on to send them away from Kolkata Zoo,” said World Wildlife Fund/India spokesperson Shubhobroto Ghosh, after the

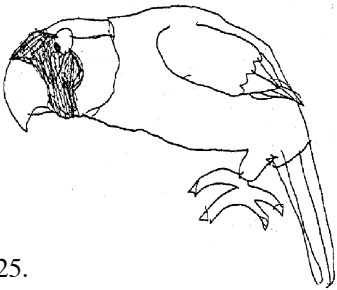
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Times of London alleged in July 2010 that no elephants had actually been taken off exhibit.

But no other elephants have reportedly been taken off exhibit since then. Lacking facilities to handle elephants retired from zoos, the Central Zoo Authority on September 12 2010 appeared to retreat from the 2009 commitment to end elephant exhibition by appointing a committee to “evaluate if zoo premises are hygienic and spacious enough for pachyderms to lead a healthy life,” wrote Nivedta Khandekar of the *Hindustan Times*. “The committee was formed by the CZA,” Khandekar continued, “after it received requests from large zoos across the country to re-consider the zoo regulating body’s November 2009 circular, which proposed shifting all elephants in zoos to national parks, sanctuaries and tiger reserves.

Temple elephants

Even before Ramesh declared elephants a National Heritage Animal, temple elephant exhibitors mobilized in opposition to any move to restrict elephant use.

“We cannot imagine Thrissur Pooram or Arattupuzha Pooram without elephants,” member of parliament K.B Ganesh Kumar told the Kerala Festivals Coordination Committee on October 7, 2010. “Some of the recommendations indicate that the committee cannot understand the significance of religious ceremonies and festivals in which captive elephants are traditionally used,” Kumar insisted.

R. Balakrishna Pillai, leader of the Kerala Congress Party, asked the Kerala government to press federal counterparts to reject the Elephant Task Force recommendations.

Kerala, where at least 35 temple elephants have run amok in the past five years, has the most captive elephants of any Indian state. Assam has the most wild elephants, about 5,500 of the 10,000 remaining in India, and the most elephant/human conflict.

Insurgents & mobs

One day after Ramesh elevated the federal status of elephants, Assam state introduced fines for poaching elephants, rhinos, and tigers of five times the amounts presently prescribed by federal law. New Assam state legislation also funded the creation of a 1,000-member armed Forest Protection Force—in effect a counter-insurgency army, since much poaching in northeast India is done by Maoist rebels to fund their operations.

In July 2009 the chief conservator of forests in adjacent Jharkand state admitted that field researchers and anti-poaching personnel did not even dare to enter 13 of the 30 sectors of the Palamau Tiger Reserve.

In May 2010 an elephant herd that normally migrates between Assam and Jharkand balked at returning to Maoist-held districts where they might encounter gunfire. Remaining in Assam as their wild food supply ran thin, they did extensive crop damage, trampled huts, and killed a man after villagers tried to force them to leave.

Later in May 2010 the Pune *Mirror* counted 1,460 animals known to have been killed by the insurgency, including 639 monkeys, 269 wild birds, 2004 wild boar, 90 elephants, and 71 peacocks. In December 2009 the Maoists massacred the entire animal population of the Jhargram Mini Zoo in West Midnapore, apparently to terrorize local people. In a similar incident, Maoists in August 2010 burned a truckload of 70 pigs who had just arrived from Haryana state.

But the shooting war is hardly the only threat to elephants in Assam, who are killing humans in conflicts over food and land use far more often than humans kill them.

“From 2007 to 2009, Assam has

recorded a total of 166 human deaths and 32 elephant deaths in incidents of human/elephant conflict,” reported Sushanta Talukdar of *The Hindu* on July 28, 2010, after elephants fatally trampled a couple with a child in the Biswanath Reserve Forest. “The figure shows an increasing trend,” Talukdar noted, with 44 human deaths recorded in 2007, 52 in 2008 and 70 in 2009.

In August 2010 two Nagaon tea plantations asked public officials to kill three elephants who had destroyed 18 houses and killed two workers in the preceding 30 days.

Paradoxically, villagers trying to drive an elephant away from their homes in August discovered the elephant had an iron spear embedded in his foreleg, which had become infected, and called a forest department veterinarian to remove it. The elephant was known to belong to a herd that had killed several people, according to *The Telegraph*.

An initially similar incident took a turn for the worse on October 23, 2010 in the Morigaon district of Assam. News media first reported that a mob beat and speared a baby elephant to death despite the presence of police and a forest warden, and a videographer whose footage was broadcast nationally that night. The baby elephant had strayed into a rice paddy. Assam principal chief conservator of forests S. Chand told the *Assam Tribune* a week later, however, that the incident was an attempted rescue that went awry when the already injured and frightened elephant moved in a manner causing further harm to herself.

Because the elephant was believed to be too weak to be fully anesthetized, Chand said, forest department veterinarians tried to treat her would using only a local anesthetic.

“But the animal became very restless following application of the sedative and started to run around nervously,” Chand continued. The forest officials present engaged the local people to restrict her movement so that she would not enter a nearby waterhole where treatment would be impossible. Mob behaviour is never disciplined or predictable,” Chand continued, “but I can say that killing was never the intention, as the people were trying to restrain the elephant’s movement and capture it so that it could be saved.”

Chand’s report was supported by Tulasi Bardoloi, president of both Tiwa Sahitya Sabha and the Autonomy Demand Struggling Forum, representing the villagers.

Indian Railways

The most notorious alleged elephant killer in Assam state heretofore has been Indian Railways, whose logos include an elephant with a lantern, used to warn railway engineers of track hazards. A speeding freight train on the night of September 22, 2010 killed seven elephants in the Moraghat forest of West Bengal, raising the toll in elephant/train collisions since 1987 to more than 150.

“A speed check on the railway is underway,” the *Indian Express* reported on October 7, 2010 from Guwahati, the Assam state capital. “A speed detection gun was applied on a train in an elephant corridor yesterday at Deepor Beel in the presence of forest officials and animal charity officials.” Guwahati wildlife division chief S.K. Seal Sharma “said the equipment was handy and effective and his division was ready to procure it. The department has previously had to rely on the railways for monitoring the speed of trains,” the *Express* said.

The use of the speed gun was introduced by Azam Siddiqui, a TV news camera man who first wrote to ANIMAL PEOPLE about road and railway threats to elephants in 2004. E-mailed Siddiqui on July 12, 2010, “As you know, we are having a tough time

checking Indian Railways speed violations, which result in frequent unnecessary painful deaths of wild elephants in elephant corridors. I was extremely worried last night when I was told that a herd of 30-odd elephants had descended from the forests in the Deepor Beel wetland near Guwahati. This is the first time they were there since February 2010, when a female elephant was run over and another cow elephant had to be euthanized later, after giving birth to a male calf minutes after the accident while in a paralysed condition. The baby later died. Every time Indian Railways get away without penalty by saying that they had maintained the recommended speed.

“Now I have learnt about a wonderful piece of technology with which I can carry out surprise checks, along with the forest department and the police, on the speed of the trains,” Siddiqui wrote, “and I would like your help to obtain it.” Siddiqui had happened upon a web site describing an inexpensive laser speed gun routinely used by U.S. law enforcement agencies to check the speed of automobiles, and by baseball scouts and coaches to measure the velocity of pitches, but almost unknown in India. Already familiar with speed guns, ANIMAL PEOPLE helped Siddiqui to collect the information he needed to apply for the PETA/India grant that funded the acquisition from the U.S. of the speed gun used in the October tests.

Trouble sites

“Eight locations have been identified as vulnerable in Assam,” said the *Indian Express*. “Of these, two sites are in Guwahati, two in Karbi Anglong, and one each in Digboi, Goalpara, Nagaon, and the gibbon sanctuary in Jorhat.”

Wildlife Trust of India staff member Ashok Kumar told *Indian Express* columnist Jay Mazoomdaar that “speeding might not be the real issue and that no overnight solution should be expected. I learnt that his WTI team took about six months,” Mazoomdaar wrote, “through a trial-and-error process, to come up with effective recommendations that have stopped the killing of elephants on the railway tracks that cut through Rajaji national park to keep Dehradun connected to the rest of the country. Since a solution for north Bengal would naturally have to be site-specific, it could take as many months to figure out.

“I recently traveled along that track, from Malbazar to Alipurduar via Rajabhatkhawa,” Mazoomdaar wrote. “It seemed that the idea of pinpointing a few parts of the corridor [as elephant crossings] was futile, as elephants could walk across the track almost anywhere along that stretch. If one wanted to limit speed, trains would have to ply slow throughout. Traveling from Siliguri to Alipurduar would take double the time.”

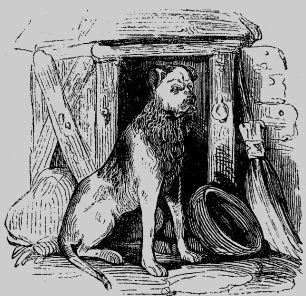
The government of West Bengal has commissioned the Wildlife Trust of India to find a way to protect elephants without delaying trains, Mazoomdaar wrote.

Concern has arisen meanwhile over the proposed route of a new railway that will link points in West Bengal and Assam to Bhutan, an isolated Himalayan nation which until now has had no railway service. The nearest station, served by the Indian Northeast Frontier Railway, is about 12 miles from the Bhutan border. The railway connections were pledged by Indian prime minister Manmohan Singh during a May 2008 state visit to Bhutan, and were funded in the 2010 Indian budget.

“Not an inch of the proposed line will be constructed on the land of the Forest Department, but it will pass very close to the Jaigaon forest area and a vital elephant corridor,” Buxa Tiger Reserve field director R.P. Saini told *The Hindu*. —Merritt Clifton



Indian Railways elephant logo.



The Watchdog

The Watchdog monitors fundraising, spending, and political activity in the name of animal and habitat protection—both pro and con. His empty bowl stands for all the bowls left empty when some take more than they need.

Fired founder Carol Buckley sues Elephant Sanctuary

NASHVILLE—Carol Buckley, cofounder of the Elephant Sanctuary at Hohenwald, Tennessee, has sued the sanctuary, board member Janice Zeitlin, and then-acting chief executive Mary Baker for wrongful dismissal.

Placed on involuntary leave of absence on November 21, 2009 and fired on March 17, 2010, Buckley filed suit on September 10, 2010, but word of the case did not reach news media until October 7, when separate reports appeared from Liz Potocsnak of Courthouse News Service and Chris Echegaray of the *Nashville Tennessean*. Buckley “is suing for retaliatory termination, breach of contract and visitation rights for her elephant, among other things,” Echegaray summarized.

“They’ve taken everything: my dog, my bird, my cat, my home, my life’s work—my elephant,” Buckley affirmed to Malcolm Gay of *The New York Times*.

Buckley became caretaker for the then one-year-old elephant, Tarra, in 1974, soon after the elephant was imported from Burma by a California tire dealer as a promotional stunt just before the Endangered Species Act halted elephant imports by private parties. Buckley eventually bought Tarra and performed with her in circuses until circa 1980, but retired from performing after coming to realize that circus life is not natural for elephants. Buckley, 55, and Scott Blais, 38, opened the Elephant Sanctuary in Tennessee in 1995. Buckley bought the sanctuary property with her own money, though she was reimbursed two years later, the lawsuit contends. From 1995 to November 2009, the lawsuit says, Buckley was the Elephant Sanctuary president, chief executive, and main fundraiser.

Wrote Echegaray, “Buckley’s trouble started, the lawsuit states, when she objected to a payment made to Zeitlin’s husband for a planned education building on the sanctuary. Buckley closed the account on which Zeitlin wrote the \$60,000 check to her husband...She also complained about a \$20,000 payment made in 2008 to a contractor.”

The conflicts originating in 2008 came to a head a year later, according to the lawsuit, after an elephant tested positive for tuberculosis in July 2009. Four Elephant Sanctuary caregivers also tested positive. Buckley contends that her efforts to follow protocol for preventing a tuberculosis outbreak were opposed by William Schaffner, M.D., who chairs the department of preventive medicine at Vanderbilt University and is now the Elephant Sanctuary board president.

“There was a long list of quite sufficient reasons,” to fire Buckley, Schaffner told Gay of *The New York Times*. “If we started to talk about this, it would reflect only adversely on Carol, and I’m not interested.”

Wrote Gay, “Buckley, Blais and a select group of caregivers have harbored 24 elephants,” ten of them now deceased, “expanding the sanctuary [from the original 200 acres] to comprise 2,700 acres of rolling Tennessee countryside. But as its reputation grew, there were reports that Ms. Buckley could be high-handed with workers. The relationship between the sanctuary’s co-founders also soured, and by last November,” just before Buckley was placed on leave, “Blais had announced he was leaving.” Blais is now in charge of daily operations at the Elephant Sanctuary.

Serenity Springs cofounder Nick Sculac convicted

COLORADO SPRINGS—Serenity Springs Wildlife Center cofounder Nick Sculac, 60, was on October 26, 2010 sentenced to serve six years in a halfway house, with probation possible in six to eight months. The conviction was Sculac’s third for felony theft, but Colorado mandates a life sentence for a third felony conviction only if the felonies involve violence.

“When a volunteer was mauled by a tiger last year,” explained R. Scott Rappold of the *Colorado Springs Gazette*, Sculac bilked the man out of \$40,500 by falsely claiming—according to court documents—that he faced fines from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and that amount was his share. The USDA is still investigating the April 2009 mauling and has not issued a fine. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration fined the sanctuary \$7,000,” Rappold added.

The volunteer, Michael McCain, of Telluride, was hurt in April 2009. In May 2009, wrote Rappold, “according to an arrest affidavit, Sculac told McCain that the sanctuary would be shut down and the animals killed” if an escrow account was used to pay the fines. “The next day,” Rappold summarized, “McCain, pooling money from his business and friends and family, wired Sculac the money.”

“Court records show Sculac was charged with theft in 1984, 1991, 1993, 2001 and 2002,” Rappold continued, “and he has repeatedly battled with creditors.”

In the 2002 case, Rappold summarized, “Sculac was accused of taking money for projects in his (former) contracting business and not carrying out the work and also taking payment for medical supplies in another business and not delivering. The charges were eventually dropped and Sculac paid restitu-

tion.” Sculac’s medical supply firm, Colorado Medical Equipment, was subject of further complaints between April 2005 and May 2006 from customers who said they bought items they did not receive, but were billed for extra shipping and storage fees due to alleged complications in delivery.

Nick and his wife of 27 years, Karen Sculac, 47, cofounded Big Cats of Serenity Springs in 1993, initially to breed and sell exotic cats. They turned to rescue in 1995. Struggling to raise operating costs, the Sculacs sold 303 acres of their 320-acre property, piece by piece, then lost their home to foreclosure in 2005, Karen Sculac told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, claiming Nick Sculac had suffered a major heart attack that obliged him to give up his contracting firm. Karen Sculac, then 47, died in 2006 from complications of pneumonia.

“Nick Sculac decided to keep the sanctuary going,” Rappold recounted. “But financial and legal problems continued. He was sued in 2007 by a former attorney, who claimed he owed \$5,794 in legal bills. In 2008, Memorial Hospital sued him for \$2,700 over unpaid medical bills. In April, a motorcycle he bought for \$14,000 was repossessed. The sanctuary property has been in and out of foreclosure several times. Sculac no longer owns the property,” Rappold added. “The name was changed from Big Cats of Serenity Springs to Serenity Springs Wildlife Center, formed in 2008 by Julie Walker, who owns the home that Sculac listed as his home address in court records.”

The Serenity Springs Wildlife Center currently houses 138 big cats. “Things are going to go on as usual,” Walker told Rappold.

Pete Bethune vs. Paul Watson

FRIDAY HARBOR, Wa.—A split between Sea Shepherd Conservation Society founder Paul Watson and Pete Bethune, captain of the sunken racing trimaran turned anti-whaling vessel *Ady Gil*, flared into view on October 5, 2010, attracting global notice as result of statements Bethune made to New Zealand National Radio, but vanished from his web site and that of the Sea Shepherds just a few days later.

Joining the Sea Shepherd fleet for the winter 2009-2010 campaign against Japanese whaling, the *Ady Gil* caught up to the whalers in early January 2010, joined on January 6 by Sea Shepherd vessel *Bob Barker*. Later that day the *Ady Gil* was cut in two when rammed by the whale-catcher *Shonan Maru #2*. The *Bob Barker* took the aft part of the *Ady Gil* under tow, but the tow proved difficult as the *Ady Gil* took on water. The *Ady Gil* was stripped and scuttled on January 8.

Bethune on February 14 boarded the *Shonan Maru #2* from a Jet Ski and handed the captain a bill for the loss of the *Ady Gil*. Taken to Japan, Bethune was on July 9 convicted in Tokyo District Court of illegally interfering with the whale hunt. Given a two-year suspended sentence, Bethune was deported to New Zealand.

The Sea Shepherds paid much of the cost of Bethune’s legal defense, but expelled him in June 2010 after learning that he had taken a bow and arrows aboard the *Ady Gil*, violating Watson’s 33-year-old policy that Sea Shepherd ships and volunteers must not carry deadly weapons. Other prominent former Sea Shepherds have been expelled in the past for violating the no-weapons policy.

According to an e-mail transcript released by Watson on October 5, Bethune on October 3 accused Watson of having needlessly ordered that the *Ady Gil* be scuttled. Bethune added that “When I met with Paul Watson in July 2009, he gave me permission to take a bow and arrow to Antarctica, with the idea of pasting a poison on the arrow tips (or fake poison), and firing them into dead whales while they were being transferred from harpoon vessel to processing ship.” This is a tactic that Watson rejected, years earlier, as a proposed method of protecting whales and African elephants and rhinos.

Bethune claimed he was unjustly expelled from the Sea Shepherds. Bethune said he was told by Watson that the expulsion was because “a deal had been done with the Japanese judiciary,” which “entailed my not participating in another Antarctica campaign, in exchange for a suspended sentence.” Bethune said that the Sea Shepherds had reneged on an pledge to buy 800 copies of a book he is writing about the 2009-2010 anti-whaling campaign. Bethune presented a five-point list of obligations that he claimed the Sea Shepherds had promised and owed him. If the Sea Shepherds did not respond satisfactorily, Bethune suggested, he might denounce Watson and the Sea Shepherds to media and in his book.

Watson responded on October 3 by telling Bethune that because Bethune “blamed all of your actions on me...I am on the Interpol Blue List,” inhibiting his freedom of movement. “We cannot promote your book or allow you to be involved in Sea Shepherd activities or to go on Sea Shepherd campaigns,” Watson wrote. “What I would like to suggest,” Watson said, “is that you continue to do your thing independent of Sea Shepherd. We will say nothing publicly about you, if you say nothing publicly about us.”

AWARDS & HONORS

ANIMAL PEOPLE editor **Merritt Clifton** on October 10, 2010 received the 15th annual *ProMED-mail Award for Excellence in Outbreak Reporting* on the Internet, presented by the **International Society for Infectious Diseases** for contributions to the identification and control of emerging disease. Past winners include leading members of the teams who identified mad cow disease in humans, the H5N1 avian influenza, Nipah virus, and Sudden Acute Respiratory Syndrome. Clifton was honored for contributions that led to identifying fruit bats as the host species for Nipah virus in April 1999; helping to identify the roles of cockfighting and falconing in the migration of H5N1; identifying aspects of halal slaughter as the probable source of outbreaks of the tick-borne Crimean-Congo hemorrhagic fever among Central Asian meat industry workers in 2009-2010; and especially, said *ProMed-mail* editor **Larry Madoff**, for contributions to epidemiological understanding of the cultural factors involved in the spread and control of canine

rabies in India, China, Indonesia, and Vietnam.

The American SPCA on October 11, 2010 announced seven honorees. **Pearl**, the **Dog-of-the-Year**, is a four-year-old black Labrador retriever. Rescued from a shelter and trained by the **National Disaster Search Dog Foundation**, Pearl was sent to Haiti with **Los Angeles County Task Force II** in January 2010, where she discovered 12 survivors buried in earthquake rubble as far as four stories below ground. **Henry**, the **Cat-of-the-Year**, lost a leg as a kitten. His resilience inspired **Cathy Conheim** of Julian, California, to produce a three-volume series of workbooks for children about coping with disabilities and understanding the disabled. “One of Henry’s books has been translated into Creole to help a children’s amputee project in Haiti,” said the ASPCA media release. “To date, Henry’s books have generated more than \$50,000 for local animal welfare groups to help other animals in need.” **The Tommy P. Monahan Award**, presented in memory of a Staten Island 9-year-old who died

while trying to save a pet from a fire in 2007, went to 11-year-old **Olivia Boulder**, of Islip, New York, who raised more than \$180,000 to help wildlife harmed by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. Boulder sent more than 500 original watercolors to thank donors who were attracted by her Facebook page. America OnLine then published one of her works as a limited edition print, sent to another 29,000 donors. **Days End Farm Horse Rescue** founder **Kathleen Schwartz-Howe**, of Woodbine, Maryland, received the **Henry Bergh Award**, partly for rescue work and partly for training animal control officers, police, firefighters, and other first responders in emergency horse care. **The ASPCA Public Service Award** went to **Ladder Company 116**, of Queens, New York, for rescuing 30 dogs and cats from a Memorial Day pet store fire. **The ASPCA Presidential Awards** went to the **Sam Simon Foundation**, of Sherman Oaks, California, for performing more than 35,000 free sterilization surgeries for the pets of low-income residents of Los

Angeles and operating an assistance dog training program, and to **Animal Rescue Flights** cofounders **Julia Ryan** and **Clark Burgard**, of Norwalk, Connecticut.

The International Fund for Animal Welfare on October 19, 2010 honored **Queen** guitarist **Brian May** at the **House of Lords** in London, England, for years of public opposition to blood sports, including organizing a campaign called Save Me to try to preserve the Hunting Act against an attempted repeal pledged by the recently elected Conservative government. Passed in 2004, the Hunting Act outlawed five forms of hunting with dogs, including fox hunting, hounding deer, lamping, lurching, and hare coursing. Fox hunting has continued through legal loopholes that allow the use of dogs to flush out foxes in connection with falconing or predator control by gunshot.

Go Vegan Radio on October 17, 2010 presented International Heroes awards to Vietnamese vegan spiritual leader **Ching Hai**, Haitian vegan musician **King Wawa**, **International Fund**

for Africa founders **Anteneh Roba, M.D.**, and **Seble Nebiyeloul** for work on behalf of animals in Ethiopia.

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The backyard bird lover’s ultimate how-to-guide

by *Sally Roth*

(Rodale Press, 33 East Minor Street, Emmaus, PA 18098), 2010. 316 pages, paperback. \$21.99.



I know very little about birds except that the feeder outside my trailer needs refilling every few days and I hear lots of chirping. After reviewing Sally Roth’s new book, *The Backyard Bird Lover’s Ultimate How-to-Guide*, I know a lot more about my feathery friends. Roth knows birds and shares her vast experience as a naturalist, writer and gardener. Roth introduces species including the scarlett tanager, indigo bunting, and gray catbird, describes what they eat, and offers recipes for birdseed mixes. “Catbirds get corny,” for example, is a blend of suet, peanut butter, cornmeal, wheat flour, apples, and sunflower chips.


An informative discussion of feeders considers when to feed, where to locate a feed, and what kind to buy. Roth also explains the ins and outs of bird baths, bird houses, and nesting. She recommends plants, especially berry bushes, that provide the preferred foods and nesting locations for the species one wishes to encourage. But Roth emphasizes the importance of allowing nesting birds to keep their privacy. If you see a bird carrying nesting material, Roth says, watch where the bird goes, and then stay away from that area. Privacy, to a bird, means security from predators, including free-roaming pet cats, who outnumber feral cats in the U.S. by about three to one. Roth recommends keeping pet cats indoors, which ensures that both cats and birds will live longer.

—Debra J. White

Homer’s Odyssey

by *Gwen Cooper*

Bantam Books (1745 Broadway, New York, NY 10019), 2009. 296 pages, paperback. \$15.00.



South Florida resident Gwen Cooper, already keeping two rescued cats, Scarlett and Vashiti, answered a call about Homer, a scrappy black kitten without eyes. Would she adopt him? The veterinarian’s office had barely finished describing Homer’s plight when Cooper caved in. Shrugging off disability, Homer sharpened his other senses, learning to snag flies in midair and to stack cockroaches in piles, then meow for Cooper’s attention.

One night an intruder broke into Cooper’s apartment. Hissing, spitting and yowling from the angry blind cat drove the man out. Cooper and Homer were both unharmed. The intruder might not have been.

Cooper eventually landed a dream job in New York City and relocated to a studio apartment in the Manhattan financial district. Adjusting to less space, Homer soon befriended just about everyone in Cooper’s life.

On the morning of September 11, 2001 Cooper heard “an enormous muffled BOOM,” as she readied for work. Homer puffed up, sensing trouble, but Cooper left to go to work without knowing what had happened until she saw the World Trade Center burning. With a co-worker, Cooper fled with thousands of other frightened New Yorkers across the Brooklyn Bridge. As they crossed Cooper heard a “colossal crack and groan.” Everyone turned to see the tower “collapsing inward upon itself.”

Worrying all the way about her cats, Cooper and her friend reached Bay Ridge in Brooklyn, about ten miles from lower Manhattan, and the next morning began trying to get back to the cats. Getting through the police lines took her three days. As there was no electricity in her building, she walked up 31 flights. There she found Scarlet, Vashiti, and Homer, thirsty and bewildered, yet safe. They stayed with friends away from Ground Zero until normalcy was restored.


Homer, still alive and well, remains an endless source of comfort, pleasure, and entertainment for Cooper—and an effective ambassador for blind cats. Cooper maintains an online question-and-answer page for other people who have blind cats, and donates some of her earnings from *Homer’s Odyssey* to Blind Cat Rescue & Sanctuary, Inc., of St. Pauls, North Carolina.

—Debra J. White

Orphans of Katrina

by *Karen O’Toole*

Give A Dog A Bone Press (P.O. Box 5665, Carefree, AZ 85377), 2010. 244 pages, paperback. \$16.96.



On August 29, 2005 Hurricane Katrina beat up New Orleans and the Gulf Coast, sending frightened residents fleeing for safety. Hurricane Rita followed. Tens of thousands of dogs, cats and other animals were left behind, mostly by people who were at work and unable to get back home when Katrina hit, or expected to be away for just hours or days, not months or forever.

Karen O’Toole in *Orphans of Katrina* describes a city in ruins. Houses were splintered like toothpicks, cars demolished by fallen debris, shattered glass lay all around, and streets clogged with polluted water. Those animals who were able to get outside run around searching for food, water, and safe refuge. On leave from her film industry job, O’Toole bargained her way into New Orleans, since transportation into the city was shut down. O’Toole was stunned by the silence. “Hello anybody,” she called out on arrival, but received no response.

After the National Guard restored order among the

Astro: The Steller Sea Lion

by *Jeanne Walker Harvey*

Sylvan Dell Publishing (612 Johnnie Dodds, Suite A2 Mount Pleasant, SC 29464), 2010. • 32 pages, paperback. \$8.95.



No one knows how the baby sea lion washed upon the shore in Morrow Bay Harbor, near San Luis Obispo, California, in December 2008. A scientist who saw the abandoned pup took him to the Marine Mammal Center in Marin County, just across the Golden Gate Bridge from San Francisco. Staff and volunteers named the sea lion Astro.

At ten months of age, when Astro was healthy enough for release into the Pacific, he was fitted with a satellite tag so that the Marine Mammal Center could monitor his travels. Astro was returned to the beach where he was found, but the sea did not interest him. Neither did the other sea lions lingering on the sand. Astro waited for two days for his human friends to return for him.

Several later release attempts failed in the same manner. Early separa-

tion from his mother left Astro unable to learn to survive on his own. In May 2009 Astro was transferred to the Mystic Aquarium in Mystic, Connecticut. There he occupies the Pribilof Islands exhibit with two female sea lion pups who were rescued by SeaWorld San Diego at Ocean Beach and Oceanside Harbor, respectively, in January and February 2009.

This children’s book tells a delightful story that should captivate young minds. It is also educational,

memorably explaining that wild animals, including sea lions, do best on their own. Dependence on humans deprives them of the ability to survive in their natural habitat. Some, like Astro and his companions, can be rescued if orphaned, but rescued wild animals who require longterm care usually must spend the rest of their lives in captivity.

—Debra J. White

The 2010 ANIMAL PEOPLE Watchdog Report on 155 Animal Charities

is now available: \$25/copy, from www.animalpeoplenews.org or ANIMAL PEOPLE, POB 960, Clinton, WA 98236 or call **360-579-2505** to order by MasterCard or VISA .

read *Merle’s Door*, I opened *Pukka* with no particular expectations, but completed it with similar disappointment.

Pukka is narrated in the dog’s voice. A yellow lab puppy, Pukka is cute, but all puppies are cute. I hoped for something spectacular to happen, for something to grab me to set this book aside from all other dog stories, but nothing ever did. *Pukka: The Pup after Merle* is just a typical story of a man and his dog. They don’t do anything unusual. My friends’ dogs hike, canoe, and camp just like Pukka—except that my friends don’t hunt with their dogs or let their dogs chase animals, including endangered grass grouse.

A frisky, friendly dog who seems to love people and other pets, Pukka lives the life I wish all dogs could live. His person adores him. He enjoys regular meals, lots of toys, and comfy dog beds. He will never have the wretched life of a chained dog.

Colorful photos of the West capture the reader as man and beast swim, hike and tour the rugged

Wyoming mountains and bustling downtown Seattle.

The book’s cover says that any dog can open our hearts. Pukka opens lots of hearts, but shelter dogs can do the same. One photo of Pukka’s breeder shows outdoor puppies in a cage, with several empty cages nearby that hint of a large breeding operation.

Kerasote is now promoting a forthcoming book called *Why Dogs Die Young and What We Can Do About It*. A hint about the content appears at his web site, where he recommends, “If you’re looking for a new dog and are getting one from a breeder take a close look at the dog’s family tree, finding out how long its ancestors lived and what they died of...Depending on your situation, you may wish to delay the spaying or neutering of your dog until it is 14 months old or not sterilize it at all.”


Not mentionedon the web site, is that the leading cause of death for dogs in the U.S. is still euthanasia at an animal shelter, at an average age of about 14 months.

—Debra J. White

Animal Magnetism

by *Rita Mae Brown*

Ballantine Books (1745 Broadway, New York, NY 10019), 2009. 233 pages, paperback. \$16.00.



Rita Mae Brown, best-selling author and fox hunter, in *Animal Magnetism* shares poignant memories about the dogs, cats, horses, and occasional other animals in her life and the lives of her family members. After writing a seven-volume series of murder mysteries set within a fox hunting club, none of which bring anyone to justice for murdering foxes, Brown follows Ted Kerasote and several other longtime defenders of hunting in presenting herself as an animal lover—possibly because that’s where the money is.

My upbringing in a gritty

working class section of New York City and 22 years and counting as an animal shelter volunteer give me a vastly different view of what it means to love animals. Brown grew up in Virginia hunt club country. The kids in my scrappy neighborhood hunted for change to buy baseball cards and bubble gum. Brown became addicted to foxhounds. My first dog was a mutt I plucked off the streets.

A Chesapeake Bay retriever given to Brown at age six became Brown’s best buddy, but died after five years from a liver ailment.

Brown as a child spent hours watching foxes, but as an adult persecutes and kills them. She talks of hunting contests, of a sort now illegal in much of the world, where numbers are painted on the hounds’ hips. A pack of dogs are released at the same time. “The first to put his fox to the ground wins. For coon hunters their hound must tree the coon,” she explains.

To Brown this is observing an honorable Southern tradition to be upheld—cruel and barbaric as many oth-

ers find it. This is difficult to reconcile with the witty, gregarious and entertaining woman I have met a few times at book signings.

Brown’s family relocated to Florida during her youth. “Mother made good on her promise of a cat and a dog,” Brown recalls. They visited the local shelter, full of unwanted and mostly doomed dogs and cats begging for love. Brown adopted a kitten, but passed by cages filled with hundreds of healthy adoptable dogs, including cute cuddy puppies, to buy a dog from a breeder.

Brown also becomes fond of horses, but not just any horses. “What I wanted to do was breed thoroughbreds and foxhounds,” Brown admits.

The cover of *Animal Magnetism* calls the book “uplifting, hilarious, and heartrending.” Nothing about breeding, hunting or setting a pack of barking dogs after another animal is uplifting. No balanced person should find this hilarious. But that Brown participates in these activities and praises them is heartrending.

—Debra J. White

remaining residents, an army of volunteers and professional shelter staff arrived to begin arguably the world’s largest animal rescue. Though the Indian Ocean tsunami in December 2004 afflicted many times more animals and a vastly larger region, the post-Katrina rescue involved more organizations and volunteers, working for a longer time.

The Humane Society of the U.S. and Best Friends Animal Society set up major animal rescue centers. Concerned individuals like O’Toole mostly worked out of an abandoned Winn-Dixie parking lot. The larger groups received a record volume of donations, but O’Toole and the other spontaneous unaffiliated volunteers, called “SUV” rescuers by the professionals, were largely on their own.

The half million New Orleans evacuees took about 200,000 pets with them, but left 50,000 behind. About 25,000 are believed to have been killed by the flooding. That left 25,000 at large or locked inside houses, clinging to rooftops, or huddling inside cars, hungry, thirsty and frightened.

O’Toole and her small band of volunteers broke into an abandoned apartment building. “I found a frail, scared Chihuahua backed up against the wall in fear,” she recalls. Other pets in that same apartment included a hamster, some fish, and two parakeets, “all in bad shape but holding on.” Ready to leave, O’Toole went back for a second look. There, inside the bathroom, an almost lifeless Chihuahua lay covered in roaches. “She will always be my littlest angel,” O’Toole

says. All the animals were evacuated to a rescue base, but O’Toole did not ask about the fate of the “angel.” “You learned early on not to ask,” writes O’Toole—but all the rescue centers among them euthanized fewer than 150 animals in the first three weeks after Katrina. More than 8,000 were saved.

The National Guard helped to recover injured dogs and cats. But two police officers from St. Bernard parish, Michael Minton and Clifford Englande, were filmed shooting loose dogs, even some with identification tags. They were indicted in November 2006. Current Louisiana attorney general James Caldwell dropped the charges soon after taking office in January 2008.

Thieves posing as wildlife rescuers arrived in vans with sanctuary names painted on the sides. Exotic birds disappeared, then were posted for sale on Petfinder.com.

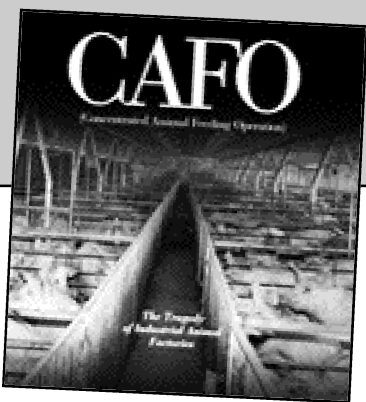
About 5,000 pets were eventually re-united with their people. About 23,000 dogs, cats, horses and other small pets were placed for adoption by shelters around the U.S. and in Canada, including many puppies and kittens who were born in the rubble after the storm. Though there were some noteworthy local farm animal rescues, most cattle, pigs, and chickens afflicted by Katrina were just written off as losses and left to fend for themselves.

Orphans of Katrina includes a lot to cry about. The story may make you angry too. But it’s also about the power of the animal/human bond.

—Debra J. White

CAFO (Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations): The Tragedy of Industrial Animal Factories

edited by Daniel Imhoff
Watershed Media (513 Brown Street, Healdsburg, CA 95448), 2010. 400 pages, hardcover. 450 photographs. \$50.00.



CAFO (Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations) is the latest and probably most ambitious yet of a 20-volume series of coffee table books produced by Watershed Media founder Daniel Imhoff to help bring public attention to major but often overlooked environmental issues.

CAFO is the fourth Imhoff edition to address factory farming, following *Farming with the Wild* (2003), *Farming & the Fate of Wild Nature* (2006), and *Food Fight: the Citizen's Guide to a Food & Farm Bill* (2007).

Imhoff and Watershed Media colleagues appear to realize that few people will ever read any of their books cover to cover. The typical fate of coffee table books, by design, is to lie on a coffee table for casual browsing by someone who is waiting for someone or something else. The theory behind Watershed Media books is that if their coffee table books are visually different enough, they will be picked up and browsed more often than others.

CAFO at a glance stands out. Seemingly as enormous as factory farming itself, it is 12 inches wide, thirteen and a half inches high, and nearly two inches thick. Many of the 450 photos inside sprawl over two facing pages. Yet even at that size they barely begin to convey the enormity of the numbers of animals raised in feedlots and pig and poultry barns, and of the earth-transforming environmental impacts of factory farming, many of which are visible from space.

Any of the 28 guest essayists and almost any of the quarter-page mini-essays by Imhoff himself that introduce many of the photo montages in the latter part of *CAFO* will provide the casual browser with plenty to think about, and probably all the information about factory farming that the person can stomach at a sitting.

As Imhoff notes in his preface, the term “factory farming” appears to have originated in 1890. Improving the economic efficiency and productivity of animal agriculture by introducing “factory” methods was at first widely regarded as good for all concerned, including the animals, but criticism emerged almost as soon as “factory farmers” gained significant market share. The problems associated with “factory farming” then, more than 70 years ago, were the same as they are today, except on a much smaller scale.

The guest contributors to *CAFO* include several who tried to arrest the momentum of the growth of factory farming before it reached even half the present production volume. Among them are Wendell Berry, who has been farming and critiquing factory farming since 1965, and Bernard Rollin, who has taught ethics to agriculture students at Colorado State University for more than 30 years.

Few *CAFO* contributors are advocates of vegetarianism. Imhoff calls himself a “cautious omnivore,” which would also describe Michael Pollan, author of the 2006 best seller *The Omnivore's Dilemma*, and probably most of the rest. Many of the *CAFO* contributors, however, discuss the degradation and suffering of the 10 billion animals per year who live and die in the U.S. factory farming system.

Matthew Scully, a former speechwriter for then-U.S. President George W. Bush, comes closest to making an argument for animal rights, in an essay reprinted from the May 23, 2005 edition of *The American Conservative*, distilled from his 2002 book *Dominion: The Power of Man, the Suffering of Animals & the Call to Mercy*.

Scully is a problematic figure to both political conservatives and perhaps the majority of animal rights activists, though welcomed and much praised by some.

On the one hand, Scully argues that conscientious conservatives, especially fellow evangelical Christians, have a moral duty to oppose the animal exploitation of many longtime reliable funders of conservative causes, including hunters, furriers, and especially agribusiness.

On the other hand, Scully approaches the idea of animal rights from a perspective that many critics contend is “well-farist” rather than “animal rights,” even though Scully is “abolitionist” in believing that many routine human uses of animals are so morally objectionable that they should be abolished.

Scully, like Peter Singer in his 1976 volume *Animal Liberation*, begins in *CAFO* with the 1780 footnote in which British attorney Jeremy Bentham wrote of animals, “The question is not, can they reason? Nor can they talk? But, can they suffer?”

Also building upon that thought, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals founder Ingrid Newkirk

remarked in 1989 to a *Vogue* interviewer, “A rat is a pig is a dog is a boy. They’re all mammals.” Newkirk went on to explain that the rat, pig, dog, and human are equal in their capacity to suffer. This has become an oft-quoted summary of the idea underlying most animal rights philosophy.

But Scully goes in a different direction. “A dog is not the moral equal of a human being,” Scully argues, “but a dog is definitely the moral equal of a pig, and it’s only human caprice and economic convenience that say otherwise...Our pets are accorded certain protections from cruelty, while the nameless creatures in our factory farms are hardly treated like animals at all. The challenge is one of consistency, of treating moral equals equally, and living according to fair and rational standards of conduct.”

Agree or disagree with Scully’s ideas, as a White House speechwriter he had a noteworthy knack for persuading the American public. *CAFO* exists not to create activists so much as just to reach and alert average Americans to the havoc wrought by factory farming. Though *CAFO* points out public policies that subsidize the factory farming system, Imhoff *et al* tend to leave recommendations for political action to readers to discover later, and leave recommendations for lifestyle change to the health care providers in whose waiting rooms readers may be most likely to find *CAFO*.

Regardless of the perspectives of the *CAFO* essayists, however, the greatest impression will be made by the photos. This is the most comprehensive visual documentation to date of all routine aspects of factory farming, especially of the all-pervasive and problematic presence of manure. The images could scarcely be more opposite to the bucolic vision of farm animal life that marketers labor to construct. Almost anyone who picks up *CAFO* and leafs casually through the pages will be moved by the faces of suffering animals, and quite likely many will become uncomfortably aware of manure any time they approach a meat counter.

—Merritt Clifton

An Inconvenient Elephant by Judy Reese Singer

HarperCollins Publishers
(10 East 53rd St., New York, NY 10022), 2010.
388 pages, paperback. \$14.99.



How do you rescue an elephant on death row in Zimbabwe from New York?

An Inconvenient Elephant is a sequel to novelist Judy Reese Singer’s 2007 hit *Still Life With Elephant*. The plot this time appears to have been inspired by the January 2008 shooting of an elephant in Charara, Zimbabwe, who was called both Tusker and Dustbin, a week after he blundered into a New Year’s Eve party.

“He was teased and tormented mercilessly by drunken youths and when he retaliated by turning a couple of cars over, he signed his own death warrant. We found out later that fruit had been thrown under the cars ‘to see what the elephant would do,’” recalled Zimbabwe Conservation Task Force founder Johnny Rodrigues, who launched an unsuccessful international Internet campaign to try to save him.

Singer’s narrator and heroine, horse trainer Neelie Sterling, live in Kenya among elephants until political violence over the disputed 2006 presidential election rocks the nation in early 2007.

Trying to flee with Diamond Rose Tremaine, a New Yorker who spent 20 years as a tour guide in the African bush, Sterling and Tremaine discover at the Jomo Kenyatta airport that all flights departing Kenya are full—but Tremaine uses her long list of African connections to book the pair on a flight to Zimbabwe, another country shaken by political, social, and economic turmoil.

“I have never seen such hunger, such deprivation, such shortages of everything, all due to a depraved and indifferent government,” comments Sterling. Families huddle together under tarps. Dogs, cats, cows and other animals drop dead in the streets from lack of food. Touring what

remains of a state park, Sterling and Tremaine meet Tusker, a bull elephant who has been put on a death list for alleged dangerous behavior. Reality is that elephant meat feeds the Zimbabwean army, making any elephant a potential target.

Sterling falls in love with Tusker and is determined to save him, especially after she catches a band of thugs taunting him with rocks and bottles.

Sterling attempts to lure Tusker out of the country, without government permission, but Tusker befriends another elephant instead of escaping. Now Sterling has two elephants to rescue.

Convincing the corrupt government to spare their lives appears to be nearly impossible. A huge bribe would help but Sterling is broke. Again Tremaine works her sources, but no pilot, even Sterling’s former boyfriend Tom, can afford to risk airlifting two elephants out of Zimbabwe. Sterling and Tremaine reluctantly return to the U.S. to raise money for Tusker, whose real life counterpart did not have that much time to wait for help.

As hosting a fundraising event requires investing money that Sterling doesn’t have, she returns to training and selling horses.

An Inconvenient Elephant is then sidetracked by a subplot. Before going to Kenya, Sterling gave away a beloved horse named Mousi. Upon her return, the new owners say they can no longer afford Mousi, but Sterling fails to respond until after Mousi is sold for slaughter. This requires Sterling to engage in another rescue effort.

Readers may find the adventures of Sterling and Tremaine considerably more satisfactory, especially in outcome, than the fates of the real Tusker and most horses who go to slaughter auctions.

—Debra J. White

Tales of an African Vet by Roy Aronson, VMD

Lyons Press (246 Goose Lane, Guilford, CT 06437), 2010.
227 pages, hardcover. \$19.95



Tales of an African Vet, by Roy Aronson, VMD, captured my attention. I have never been to South Africa and enjoyed sharing Aronson’s acquaintance with the many wild and exotic animals who inhabit the region, some of whom, like cheetahs, are endangered.

Loving horses, Aronson in his first year of vet school was also a “fledgling farrier.” While shopping for horse shoes in Pretoria, Aronson was offered a job at a private game preserve in Botswana, which he took. “Thirty years later I can still taste the dust in my throat and feel the tingle in my belly when I think back to this time,” Aronson writes. His final year of vet school was spent caring for the animals at the Pretoria Zoo. He later worked at Kruger National Park. Among his most interesting cases have been treating snakes, saving a cheetah’s life, and performing a difficult diagnosis on a lioness named Mehlwane at the Thornybush game preserve. A dark circle surrounded Mehlwane’s eye. After consultation with another wildlife expert, Arson identified a

case of entropion, a congenital condition “where the lower lid rolls in toward the cornea,” also found in dogs. Entropion can inhibit lions from hunting successfully. Mehlwane was darted with anesthesia and the vets successfully corrected her condition on a makeshift operating table in the bush.

Aronson came of age during the ugly apartheid era. A chapter called “Cry Wolf” discusses a hard-to-believe episode in which, according to Aronson, the South African Defense Force in the 1960s bought about 200 wolves from the U.S.

“At the time there were border wars, and freedom fighters affiliated with the then banned African National Congress were infiltrating the border with the intention of committing so-called acts of terror,” Aronson explains. The government planned to breed a hybrid wolf to track and attack the infiltrators. As wolves had been entirely extirpated from the Lower 48 in the 1960s, except at some zoos, and Aronson offers no sources to support his claims, I did my own checking.

Elaborated Robyn Dixon of the *Los Angeles Times* in October 2004, “Scientists at Roodeplaat Breeding Enterprises imported the animals from North America in an attempt to create an attack dog that would have a wolf’s stamina and sense of smell to track down black insurgents in the harsh border regions. The secretive experiment failed—the wolf hybrids were stubborn and hard to train.”

Descendants from that experiment reputedly inhabit the Tsitsikamma Wolf Sanctuary near the southern coast of South Africa.

Designed by Patricia Bloom, the original 2008 edition of *Tales of an African Vet*, from Arrowvet Publishers of South Africa, was extensively illustrated both with photos and pen-and-ink drawings. The lack of illustrations in the Lyons Press edition is a disappointment, along with the lack of a clear time frame for the content, which Aronson provides at his personal web site. That page belongs in the book.

—Debra J. White

It’s a Grand Life by Barry Tuddenham

Cats Anonymous Rescue & Adoption
(R.R. #3, Orton, Ontario L0N 1N0, Canada), 2008.
Paperback, \$12.00.

Published as a fundraiser for Cats Anonymous Rescue & Adoption, *It’s a Grand Life* is a grand collection of photographs and stories about animals who live on the banks of the Grand River in Ontario, one of three Grand Rivers that drain into the Great Lakes.

Author/photographer Barry Tuddenham never actually specifies which Grand River his work documents, but the wildlife of all three Grand Rivers overlap.

A robin pictured on a branch munching berries is stunning. “The robin is usually the first bird to sing in the morning, the last to sing at night,” says Tuddenham.

Tuddenham recently sold his stone house overlooking the

Grand River, after observing and photographing three decades of ecological change. “If you had said that I would watch eagles fighting over the Grand River I would have laughed. Now they appear every year,” Tuddenham writes.

A few domestic animals share Tuddenham’s stunning array of wildlife photos, including a big hairy dog named Baby who enjoys a splash in the Grand River on a hot summer day. Baby had a good life with Tuddenham, but age finally caught up to him. Tuddenham describes Baby as “loving, gentle and intelligent.”

Baby was also lucky to live with a caring human.

—Debra J. White

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SAMMI & BECCA

EDINBURGH—Sammi and Becca, a pair of five-month-old Red River piglets, a species native to Africa, were killed in January 2010 at the Edinburgh Zoo. Their deaths came to light in October 2010.

Edinburgh Zoo head keeper of hoofstock Kathleen Graham said when Sammi and Becca were born on August 14, 2009 that she was “thrilled” that the zoo’s Red River pigs had bred for the first time since 2004, and hoped that “this is the first of many contributions our Red River pigs make to the breeding program.” But Sammi and Becca were killed after the European Association of Zoos & Aquaria informed the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland that Red River pigs are overabundant in captivity.

“When three more baby piglets were born in June 2010,” noted Victoria Raimes of the *Edinburgh Evening News*, “the zoo did not refer to the previous pair, but proudly stated that it was “delighted that for a second year our adult pair has produced piglets.” A zoo spokesperson told Raimes that “The three piglets we currently have at the zoo will remain here as long as it is viable to do so. We have no plans to euthanise them at this time.”

OBITUARIES

“I come to bury Caesar, not to praise him. The evil that men do lives after them. The good is oft interred with their bones.” —William Shakespeare

Robert J. White, M.D., 84, died on September 16, 2010 at his home in Geneva, Ohio from complications of diabetes and prostate cancer. Recalled Grant Segall of the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, “White founded the MetroHealth Medical Center neurosurgery department and Pope John Paul II’s Committee on Bioethics. He belonged to the Pontifical Academy of Sciences and stumped for what he considered the right to life at all ages. He examined Vladimir Lenin’s preserved brain, consulted with Boris Yelstin’s doctors, and joined the medical team treating John Paul II’s critical injuries from gunshots. He wrote for *Reader’s Digest* and many other periodicals, edited scholarly journals and published more than 700 papers. He performed more than 10,000 surgeries. He raised 10 children.” But White also was among the most notorious of vivisectionists. From 1963 to 1968 White killed about 30 rhesus macaques in attempts to make the head of one animal live on the body of another. Then-*Washington Post* health writer Larry Thompson reported in 1988 that White built on work begun by French vivisectionist Claude Bernard, who in 1887 tried to graft the heads of newly guillotined prisoners to the bodies of large dogs. Working at Case Western University, White competed to perfect the experiment with David Gilboe of the University of Wisconsin in Madison. Gilboe in 1964 reported decapitating 15 dogs and keeping their heads alive with pumps. By then, White had already transplanted a macaque’s head to another body. News media said the head appeared to be conscious after awakening from anesthesia, snapped at researchers’ hands, and lived more than a week. The claim that one of White’s transplanted heads survived a week has often been echoed, including by White in his later years. But Thompson, apparently after investigating medical literature, reported that “The longest surviving Case Western monkey lived only 36 hours.” Since White did not successfully link the nerves from one animal’s spine to another’s brain, none of the heads had any control of bodily functions. The bodies to which they were attached were in effect just biological pumps, circulating blood to the mute heads much as Gilboe’s machines did. After White’s last attempted head transplant in March 1970, appalled colleagues reportedly saw to it that such experiments were never again funded. However, White continued publishing papers based on his head transplant experiments until 1997. An aggressive public advocate of animal experimentation, White in the 1980s and 1990s infiltrated several animal rights groups, but withdrew when recognized by journalists.

Jack Powers, 73, died in Boston on October 14, 2010 from complications of dementia brought on by strokes. “The oldest of six children, Powers grew up in and around housing projects in Roxbury and graduated from Cathedral High School in the South End. A semester studying chemical engineering at Northeastern University was enough to show him his path lay elsewhere,” recalled Bryan Marquard of the *Boston Globe*. A conscientious objector, Powers refused military induction, then hitchhiked and rode freight cars west, arriving in San Francisco on April 14, 1958—the same day that the Giants baseball team made their San Francisco debut. “I thought they were giving me a parade, but it was just the Giants,” Powers later laughed. Powers rented a room in an old house whose other tenants included Beatnik poet Allen Ginsberg. Ginsberg and other Beats introduced Powers to vegetarianism, Buddhism, and poetry. Returning east circa 1960, Powers was for a time a New Hampshire sportswriter, but returned to Boston in the mid-1960s, organizing weekly poetry readings and vegetarian dinners for the poor. The dinner project continued into the mid-1980s. From 1970 to 1980 Powers owned the Stone Soup bookstore and art gallery in downtown Boston, hosting innumerable gatherings in support of various causes, including animal rights. Powers’ best known project was founding the Stone Soup Poetry Collective, which has hosted weekly open microphone readings for more than 40 years, usually opened either by themed readings or readings by visiting celebrity poets. Stone Soup from 1980 to 1989 hosted annual readings of pro-animal poetry coordinated by Merritt Clifton, editor of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** since 1992. The Stone Soup Poetry Collective offers part of the 1987 reading at <www.youtube.com/watch?v=9r3tam-HG1E>, videotaped by a longtime regular known as The Wombat. Powers himself often presented poems by Cathy Czapla, the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** newswire monitor since 1996.

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www.youtube.com/watch?v=0JXcPskSGE

Based on Hindu mythology, this is the story of Yudisthira, a pious king whose place in Heaven is determined by his love for a dog. Animated by Wolf Clifton in the style of an Indonesian shadow puppet play.

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Wildlife trafficking & alleged criminal genius

NEW DELHI—The Supreme Court of India on October 20, 2010 upheld the conviction of wildlife poacher and trafficker Sansar Chand for possession of leopard skins.

Chand has been the most notorious poacher and trafficker in India—and perhaps the world, rivaled only by international reptile dealer Anson Wong, the so-called “Lizard King,” on trial in Malaysia as the October 2010 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** went to press. The tabloid notoriety of both Chand and Wong has ascended since the October 2004 death of Koose Munisamy Veerappan in a shootout with a Tamil Nadu special task force sent to try to take him prisoner.

In addition to prolifically killing wildlife, Veerappan reputedly killed or ordered the killing of as many as 130 people, 80 of them to get rid of witnesses. Chand, exhibiting a very different personal style, is best known for manipulating the Indian legal system.

First charged with poaching tigers and leopards in 1974, at age 16, Chand was in August 2010 sentenced to serve six years in prison on charges originally filed in Rajasthan in 1995. Wanted for poaching in connection with 57 cases in nine states, Chand was sentenced to five years in prison in 2004, but was released on bail three months later and disappeared. He reput-

edly took vengeance by poaching the last tigers at the Sariska tiger reserve, among the oldest and most renowned in India.

The Supreme Court of India suspended the 2004 sentence in September 2009. In 2008, meanwhile, Chand won dismissal of another set of charges of possession of 28 leopard skins and two tiger skins, first filed in 1992.

In contrast to Chand’s elusiveness, Delhi police on October 27, 2010 arrested a man named Harmohinder in the act of trying to sell ivory jewelry to People for Animals founder Maneka Gandhi at her home, a local landmark which also houses the PFA national offices. “According to the complaint,” reported *The Hindu*, “he contacted Mrs. Gandhi and offered her the jewelry at half price.”

“Isn’t it extraordinary!” e-mailed Mrs. Gandhi to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “The truth is that it was a sting. My investigators lured him to sell his ivory to a ‘rich lady’ and then they had me speak to him on the phone and I invited him home.

“The man in the excitement of making such a large sale did not notice my huge nameplate, the police at the gate, the police inside, and of course my face. When he was on his way, I rang up the Deputy Commissioner of Police, who was incredulous and thought I was joking.”



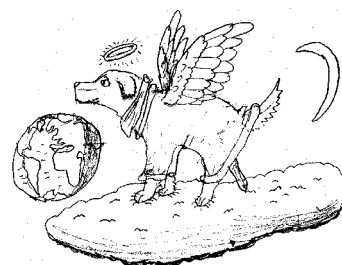
Tony Curtis, 85, died on September 29, 2010 at his home near Henderson, Nevada. Born Bernard Schwartz, Curtis was in 1933 made a ward of the court, due to the schizophrenic behavior of his mother, and lived for a time in an orphanage operated by the American Humane Association on the premises of the Mohawk & Hudson River Humane Society. He returned to New York City to attend Seward Park High School in Manhattan. Curtis turned to acting after Navy duty during World War II, winning his first screen role in 1948 and continuing to perform on screen until 2008. Curtis married his sixth wife, horse trainer and former competitive rider Jill VandenBerg, in 1998. “Alerted to the suffering of abused and neglected horses,” Curtis “became the greatest supporter of Shiloh Ranch, a rescue and sanctuary for old, abused and neglected horses outside Las Vegas, which his wife had founded with her mother,” recalled Jacques Von Lunen in *The Portland Oregonian*.

Jill Schechter died on September 6, 2010, eight days before her 76th birthday. “She was a native New Yorker, but spent her last 30 years in South Florida,” recalled her daughter, Ronnie Ellen Kramer, Ph.D. “She told us that as a child, she had an unusual sensitivity toward animals,” Kramer told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “As she got older, that sensitivity strengthened and was manifested in her decision to become a vegan for ethical and moral reasons.” Schechter formed a pro-animal letter writing service which eventually had more than 1,400 subscribers, sending correspondence to media, legislators, heads of state, corporate executives, “and anyone else in a position to enact change,” Kramer said. Failing health forced Schechter to discontinue her service in 2007. Her estate will benefit at least four animal charities.

Dan Palmer, 49, died on October 24, 2010 after being removed from life support at the London Health Sciences Center in London, Ontario. Police investigating a report that someone was beating a dog found Palmer unconscious in a stairwell of the building, which is across the street from the police station. Three dogs were impounded at the scene. Christopher Martin, 26, was charged with causing unnecessary pain and suffering to an animal. Carl Boyer, 26, was charged with aggravated assault after allegedly biting a police officer during the arrest. Neighbors told QMI Agency reporter Joe Belanger that Palmer was beaten after intervening on behalf of the dogs, but “A police source has said the beating was not related to the dogs,” Belanger wrote. Police did not say whether additional charges would be filed against the suspects.

MEMORIALS

In memory of Luiz Marcello Seabra, husband, caretaker and sadly missed.
 Sleep in Peace, Sweet Prince.
 Your forever partner,
 —Jackie Bullette



Sinkey Boone, 73, died September 1, 2010 in Brunswick, Georgia. Recalled Turtle Restoration Network founder Todd Steiner, “His daddy was a shrimper, he and his brothers were shrimpers, and some of his sons and grandsons still are shrimpers. But Sinkey was much more—a welder, net-maker, generous purveyor of folk wisdom, and an inventor. One of his inventions saved the lives of hundreds of thousands of sea turtles. Sinkey invented a turtle excluder device that shrimpers would accept. Called the Georgia Jumper, it was a modification of an earlier invention of Sinkey’s called the Jelly-ball excluder, used to keep jellyfish from clogging shrimp nets. He liked to call the Georgia Jumper a trawling efficiency device, because it helped reduce the unwanted catch of many species besides sea turtles.” The Georgia Jumper replaced a government-developed turtle excluder device that shrimpers found unwieldy. “Sinkey and his family also helped promote the Sea Turtle Restoration Project’s groundbreaking Turtle-Safe Certification Program in the 1990s,” Steiner added.

Don Hornsby, 55, of Bedfordview, South Africa, was fatally trampled by an elephant on October 13, 2010 at Mutsadona, near Lake Kariba, Zimbabwe. “Don was a great supporter of wildlife and assisted us in the feeding of Tatenda, an orphaned baby rhino,” e-mailed Zimbabwe Conservation Task Force founder Johnny Rodrigues. “Don and some friends were fishing from the bank of the lake when the elephants came to drink water,” Rodrigues said. “He was running to fetch his camera when the elephant charged at him. Usually the rule at the lake is that people may only catch fish from their boats, and not from the banks—because the animals drink there. I don’t know why they were on the bank. As a passionate conservationist, Don would have been especially aware of the ways of nature and the tension of the elephants.” Rodrigues noted that the elephants around Lake Kariba are especially edgy because many have been shot at by poachers, and have seen humans killing and butchering wildlife.

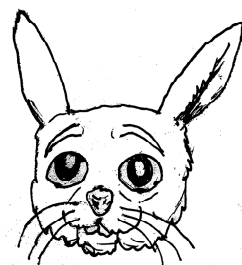
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